

Rebels reach Monrovia suburbs; top army officer deserts post

MONROVIA, July 6, (AP): Rebel sources in neighbouring Ivory Coast said 4,500 insurgents had reached the suburbs of the capital by yesterday and were preparing to attack President Samuel Doe's remaining forces.

Meanwhile, Doe's top military commander abandoned his post and fled the country, just days after his predecessor also escaped the rebel advance.

A senior rebel leader in the United States accused the US administration of trying to keep rebel leader Charles Taylor from taking

power and said the rebels won't halt their advance to permit new peace talks.

Government troops ransacked shops in the capital Wednesday night under cover of curfew. Troops shot their way into shops, warehouses and restaurants and emptied the shelves in the early hours of last morning.

Rebels battled troops in the city's eastern and western suburbs yesterday for a fourth consecutive day.

For the first time since the fighting began, the Christian missionary station Elwa did not

broadcast on schedule yesterday evening. It is on the outskirts of Monrovia.

Doe's most trusted commander, Lt Gen. Charles Julu, left the country Wednesday. Doe has been deserted by most of his advisers as the rebels have tightened their grip on the capital.

Julu, head of Doe's executive mansion guard since the death in fighting last month of his previous commander, led army troops who killed more than 2,000 civilians in northern Liberia after an unsuccessful coup attempt

against Doe. Julu was sent there again this year but was unable to stop the rebel advance, and his forces again were accused of killing hundreds of civilians.

Julu had been chief of staff for only a few days since the weekend resignation of Lt Gen. Henry Dubar, who also fled.

Rebel sources in Ivory Coast near the Liberian border said their 800-man contingent that had attacked the capital had been reinforced by 4,500 others. The reinforcements brought up heavy armaments cap-

tured from army bases outside Monrovia.

The rebel source said the insurgents had taken Schiefflin, the big military camp 12 miles (19 kilometres) east of Monrovia. The rebels estimated Doe still had 2,000 fighting men in the capital.

A serious food shortage in the city forced people to beg for rice. "Give us food, we are dying," one man said.

As morning broke, frightened Monrovians ventured out into deserted streets and discovered at least 16 bodies after shooting that

continued throughout the third night of looting.

Soldiers roamed the streets in stolen cars, firing in the air to frighten people and keep them back while they looted. The only vehicles on the streets were driven by soldiers who left dead and wounded civilians by the roadside.

A man with three bullet wounds fled for four hours in the city's main waterfront market despite pleas to soldiers to carry him to the hospital.



Guerrilla guns

A little boy sits next to a rifle used by FMLN guerrillas on July 3 in the conflictive eastern zone of Morazan Province. The FMLN rebels and right-wing government plan to resume peace talks to put an end to the 10-year civil war. (Reuters wirephoto)

Document links CIA with drug traffickers

Panama expels Cuba diplomats

Threat to sever ties

LOS ANGELES, July 6, (UPI): The CIA trained Guatemalan guerrillas in the early 1980s at a Mexican ranch owned by a drug baron who murdered US narcotics agent Enrique Camarena. A US Drug Enforcement Administration report revealed yesterday.

The report was based on DEA interviews with Laurence Victor Harrison, a government informant who ran a communications network for drug traffickers, including Rafael Caro Quintero, the owner of the ranch in Vera Cruz, Mexico.

The document, labelled "secret" by the DEA, was released to defence lawyers by US district judge Edward Rafeedie, who said he would hold a hearing "to determine whether or not (Harrison) has any admissible evidence that relates to any defendants in this case."

In a series of interviews with the DEA, Harrison also said he learned through second-hand information in Mexico that in the early 1980s "The CIA established and maintained clandestine airfields to refuel aircrafts loaded with weapons which were destined for Honduras and Nicaragua."

Harrison told DEA agents the Central Intelligence Agency used pilots for drug traffickers to smuggle the weapons into Central America, apparently to supply the US-backed "Contra" rebels who spent the 1980s trying to overthrow the Nicaraguan government at president Ronald Reagan's behest.

Harrison, who testified last month in the trial of four men charged in the murder of Camarena, told the DEA that the CIA used the Mexican federal security police, the federal security directorate, commonly called the DFS, as a cover for the clandestine activities.

On Feb 9, Harrison told DEA agents that he had heard that, from 1981 to 1984, the CIA trained Guatemalan guerrillas at Caro's Vera Cruz ranch.

PANAMA CITY, July 6, (UPI): Panama reduced Cuba's diplomatic representation to four members and threatened to sever ties completely if Cuba continues its "hostile conduct" toward President Guillermo Endara.

Foreign Minister Julio Linares issued the warning following the announcement last week that the Cuban diplomatic mission in Panama will be cut down to a charge d'affaires, a commercial, an economic and a consular attachment. The rest of the Cuban diplomatic corps has 10 days to leave the country.

The Foreign Ministry cited Cuba's refusal shortly after the invasion to recognise the Endara government's ambassador to the United Nations. The Cuban ambassador said at the time the Endara government was "not representative of the Panamanian people, but of those who seek to impose an invading force."

On Jan 5, Cuban Vice-President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez reaffirmed his country's refusal to recognise the Endara government, the statement said.

"We have been given proof of tolerance and flexibility," he added.

There was no immediate comment from the Cuban charge d'affaires about the order.

The Foreign Ministry said the

expulsion was due to "the repeated and systematic hostile conduct shown by the government of the republic of Cuba against the legitimate, elected government of Panama, which has contributed to a deterioration of bilateral relations."

Endara was installed as president during the US invasion of Panama last December that ousted former military ruler Manuel Antonio Noriega. Endara was considered the winner of May 1989 elections, but the election was annulled under Noriega.

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On Jan 5, Cuban Vice-President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez reaffirmed his country's refusal to recognise the Endara government, the statement said.

The ministry cited several other occasions on which Cuba repeated its view that the Endara government was illegitimate.

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Blast wounds 27 blacks

White right-wing extremists threaten to increase attacks

JOHANNESBURG, July 6, (Agencies): An explosion probably caused by a bomb wounded 27 blacks in a crowded Johannesburg bus terminal during the morning rush hour today, police and hospital officials said.

"There was blood everywhere," said witness Nhlanhla Mbatha. "It was only black people who got injured. People were crying and screaming."

Police spokesman Colonel Frans Malherbe said the explosion, the city's sixth in a week, was probably caused by a bomb placed inside a dustbin but investigations continued.

White extremists have claimed responsibility for the five previous blasts.

The blast sent glass shards and concrete chunks scything into crowds of bus passengers.

Flying debris gouged holes in three cars and a mini-van.

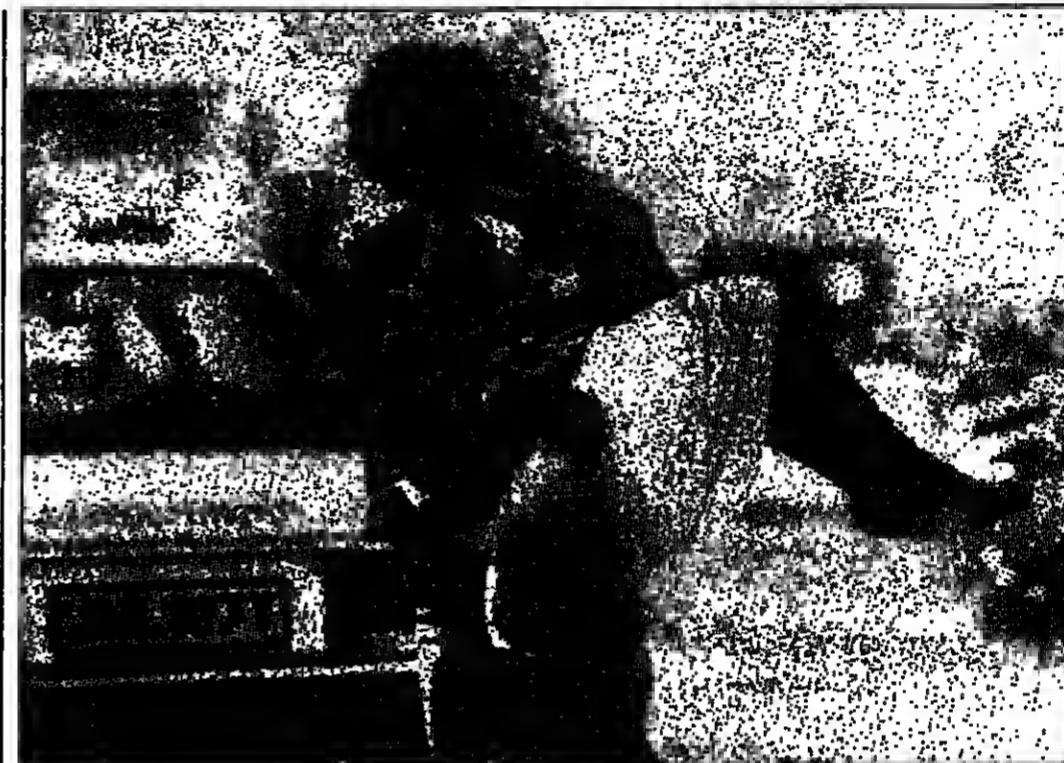
"One man had a huge gash in his left thigh. Blood was just pouring out," magazine editor Mbatha said.

Ambulances with sirens wailing edged through traffic jams to collect wounded people lying across a rubble-strewn street and pavement.

Johannesburg hospital spokeswoman Jennifer Gillwald said 27 people were being treated for wounds from the blast.

Malherbe said no-one had claimed responsibility for causing the explosion in a street used mainly by black commuters travelling into work from outlying townships.

White extremists called the White Wolves said they carried out a series of five bombings



A traffic policeman carries an injured woman away from a bus terminal July 6 in Johannesburg where an explosion probably caused by a bomb wounded 24 people and damaged buildings. The bus station is used mainly by blacks. Anti-apartheid groups suspect white rights have launched a bomb campaign. (Reuters wirephoto)

Quayle smoked pot with convict

WASHINGTON, July 6, (UPI): The Bureau of Prisons denied yesterday that a prison inmate was held incommunicado four days before the 1988 presidential election to silence his allegation that he sold marijuana to Vice-President Dan Quayle.

The prisoner, held in a federal prison in El Reno, Oklahoma, was placed in a special punishment cell in November 1988 on orders of Bureau of Prisons director J. Michael Quinlan, a highly unusual move.

But Bureau of Prisons spokesman Greg Bogdan said the convict — Brett Kimberlin — was ordered into special detention out of concern for his safety, not as a result of his allegations about the vice-president.

Kimberlin has filed a lawsuit in US District Court alleging that Quinlan and former Justice Department spokesman Loye W. Miller Jr conspired to silence him to protect the Republican ticket of George Bush and Quayle.

Miller would not comment.

Kimberlin, who is serving a 50-year sentence for drug smuggling and participating in a series of 1978 bombings in Speedway, Indiana, says he smoked marijuana with Quayle at a fraternity party in Bloomington, Indiana, in 1971.

He also says he sold marijuana to Quayle more than a dozen times during the next several years.

A spokesman for Quayle has denied the vice-president used marijuana and Kimberlin was offered no corroboration for his story.

Kimberlin's suit said he was placed in "administrative detention" and barred from talking to reporters four days before the 1988 election.

He was allowed out after one day in the special detention but then ordered back into a punishment cell on the morning of the Nov 7 election to prevent him from calling reporters gathered at a Washington hotel to hear his story, the lawsuit said.

Bogdan, the Bureau of Prisons spokesman, said Kimberlin was placed in the punishment cell on Quinlan's orders after the Justice Department spokesman learned from a reporter that the prisoner feared for his safety.

If the Bureau of Prisons had wanted to silence Kimberlin, Bogdan said, it would not have allowed American television NBC News to conduct a videotaped interview with him before he was first placed under detention.

Federal prison officials learned from the reporter that Kimberlin feared for his safety, Bogdan said.

During his tour that began June 6, Mandella, 71, drew con-

Mandela given joyous welcome

Ugandans jam airport

ENTEBBE, Uganda, July 6, (AP): Nelson Mandela, nearing the end of a wearying and sometimes controversial tour of Europe, the United States and Africa, arrived here Thursday to a tumultuous welcome from dance troupes and drummers.

Mandela, coming from London where he pressed for continued economic sanctions against South Africa, landed at the shores of Lake Victoria, where he was greeted by President Yoweri Museveni, cabinet ministers and members of the diplomatic corps.

Mandela, the deputy president of the African National Congress inspected a military guard of honour. He made no speeches upon his arrival.

Mandela, accompanied by his wife Winnie, leaves Sunday to attend the annual summit meeting of the Organisation of African Unity in Ethiopia.

Thousands of Ugandans jammed the airport and many more lined the 21-mile route to the capital, Kampala, in an attempt to glimpse Africa's best known former political prisoner.

Mandela's visit coincided with those of Presidents Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique, who were stopping over on their way to the OAU meeting.

An African diplomat, speaking on condition he not be identified, said Mandela likely would brief the two of his journeys.

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Kenya arrests 3 more people

NAIROBI, Kenya, July 6, (AP): Three more people were arrested Thursday in a crackdown against proponents of multi-party democracy, while the wives of the two most prominent detainees appealed to the government not to torture their husbands.

Thursday's arrests, of two lawyers and the son of a former Kenyan vice-president, brought to at least ten the number of people detained since Wednesday by the single-party government, according to detainees and other sources close to opposition figures.

The arrests follow months of official criticism of those calling for reform, and come in advance of a rumoured rally for multi-party democracy that was to be held Saturday.

The arrests were set to go ahead despite a court order that they be suspended.

Two former cabinet ministers detained in the crackdown had asked the government for permission to hold a meeting tomorrow in support of legalising political opposition, which has been outlawed since 1982.

The request was not granted but rumour had it that the bus was held in a bus station in the city of Nairobi.

President Daniel Arap Moi has warned people against attending.

The former cabinet ministers, Kenneth Matiba and Charles Rubia, were seized Wednesday by plain-clothes security agents. In a press release their wives, Edith Matiba and Hannah Rubia, said that "our husbands' arrest is intended to force the government to release them from prison."

Other executives at the meetings said the idea appeared to generate strong interest and Mandela called the proposal "constructive and imaginative."

Mandela said in a telephone interview from his Brooklyn home on Wednesday that the hour-long, follow-up meeting was held at Mandela's request.

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US hails use of aid funds by Manila

MANILA, July 6 (UPI): A US official expressed satisfaction today at the use by the Philippine government of funds generated from a multilateral assistance programme for the debt-strapped country.

But the official, Elliot Richardson, said he concurred with a report by the American chamber of commerce of the Philippines finding that bureaucratic red tape, political instability and a hostile congress were driving away foreign investors.

The United States initiated the "mini-Marshall Plan" for the Philippines to help strengthen democracy after President Corazon Aquino was swept to power in a civilian-backed military revolt in 1986.

The programme, alternately called Multilateral Assistance Programme or Philippine Assistance Programme, was formally launched in Tokyo one year ago when 19 countries and six agencies pledged more than \$3.3 billion for development projects.

"I get a feeling on the part of the donors that the programme is moving very well," Richardson, President Bush's special envoy to the programme, told a news conference.

Richardson said the US General Accounting Office recently conducted a review of Washington's participation in the programme and other projects by the Agency for International Development and "found progress has been accelerated and programmes were moving forward very successfully."

He said Bush had recommended \$200 million in aid for the programme this year. During the Tokyo meeting last year, the United States pledged to contribute \$1 billion over the next five years.

Richardson, who arrived Saturday for his third visit to the Philippines to look into the implementation of the programme, also dismissed as incorrect widely published criticism that there was a "pipeline problem."

"I think it's fair to say that the performance of the Philippines in accelerating the use of funds in the pipeline has been regarded well accomplished to date and that there are measures in place that will continue to improve the pace at which these resources are put to effective use," he said.

But Richardson, discussing the chamber of commerce report, said he thought the Philippines, which is saddled with a \$28 billion external debt and badly needs foreign investment to put itself on an even keel, had placed itself in a "position of comparative disadvantage."

Richardson said it would help if the Philippine government and its congress took "further action to streamline the investment process, cut down on impediments to it and the time it takes to reach definitive answers to investment proposals."

He said he expected the next pledging session for the Philippines assistance plan to take place either in late October or early November in Washington.

Manila rebels to free US volunteer, Japan aid worker

NPA commanders warn against rescue operation

MANILA, July 6 (Reuter): Philippine communist guerrillas said today they would release this month a US Peace Corps volunteer and a Japanese aid worker they were holding, but warned the two might be killed if soldiers tried to rescue them.

The rebels, in an interview with Philippine reporters, said Timothy Swanson, of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Japanese Fumio Mizuno were safe and were being held on Negros island on suspicion of involvement in the government's anti-insurgency campaign.

"We will turn them over within the month but an offensive by the enemy might endanger their lives," a New People's Army (NPA) commander who identified himself as KA (Comrade) Efren said in the interview.

A transcript of the interview in Negros was made available in Manila.

The commander warned soldiers not to attempt a rescue, saying: "We will engage them to protect our territory. The two foreigners may be hurt, or worse still, get killed."

"In a face-to-face battle, they (the military) might not get back the two alive," he added.

US embassy spokesman Stanley Schrager said US officials were glad to hear the two aid workers were safe. "We are urging their safe return soon," he said.

Mizuno, a director for the private aid group Organisation for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement (OISCA) was kidnapped

while visiting a silkworm farm on May 29. Swanson was abducted from his home on June 13, two weeks before the US embassy ordered the withdrawal of all 261 Peace Corps volunteers from the country for fear of communist attacks.

The abductions took place in remote rebel-controlled villages of Negros island in the central Philippines, 480 km (300 miles) south of Manila.

The NPA has been fighting the government for 21 years and has demanded the withdrawal of US military forces from Philippine bases.

Effren said the rebels did not want ransom for Swanson and Mizuno. "We are not bandits," he said.

He said the two foreigners had been "invited to dialogue" with the NPA about the rebels' suspicion they were involved in anti-insurgency operations. He said "they gave us much information."

"We will spare them this time. But we will not be so kind next time," the rebel leader said.

He said the NPA was not after all aid workers but only those helping President Corazon Aquino's government in its anti-insurgency drive.

The US and Japanese embassies have denied that Americans and Japanese are involved in the insurgency war.

In the Negros provincial capital of

Bacolod, a civilian emissary in touch with the NPA said he learned the rebels were preparing to release Mizuno soon after determining he had not given information to the military.

"Even if they are guilty, we will spare them this time. But we will not be so kind the next time," said the guerrilla leader.

He said that not all the aid workers in the country were NPA targets, adding that they were only against those helping President Corazon Aquino's government in its "war policy" against the NPA.

Effren accused one of six Peace Corps volunteers assigned on Negros of giving information to the military on rebel bases.

Effren said the NPA was preparing charges against OISCA and the Peace Corps, but did not elaborate. He warned the military against any attempt to rescue Swanson and Mizuno.

"If they do (attempt a rescue), we will engage them to protect our territory. The two foreigners may be hurt, or worse still, get killed," he said.

The rebel commander said the guerrillas were treating Swanson "with respect" and added "we like Americans as long as they don't co-operate with their government's dirty tricks."

Troops captured a remote mountain camp from communist rebels in the central Philippines, killing 16 guerrillas, the military said yesterday.



Philippine grade school pupils hang posters outside their school building in the central Philippine island of Negros July 5 demanding the return of US Peace Corps volunteer Tim Swanson. Communist guerrillas claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of Swanson and a Japanese aid worker. (Reuter wirephoto)



Five slain

Philippine military agents in plainclothes remove from a taxicab the bodies of two of five suspected robbers they killed in the Manila financial district of Makati July 5, after a street chase across the capital. Police said the five slain men were about to rob a grocery when security forces saw them. (Reuter wirephoto)

Phnom Penh rejects Khmer peace bid

BANGKOK, July 6 (AP): An agreement on arranging a cease-fire in Cambodia is in danger of unravelling as the warring factions again quarrel over the role of the Khmer Rouge, the largest and most feared guerrilla group.

The fighting has widened since the agreement June 5 in Tokyo. And the Vietnamese-installed government in Phnom Penh has been tirelessly trading bitter accusations with the Khmer Rouge that show there has been no progress on the most basic issues.

The forces of Prince Norodom Sihanouk said yesterday that on Wednesday they had beaten back a six-pronged attack by the Phnom Penh forces on positions in the central province of Kompongthom. The guerrillas say they have taken almost complete control of

the province.

Government forces struck positions along national roads 6 and 12 at 4 am, they said in a statement. The roads converge near the provincial capital, also called Kompongthom, about 100 kilometres (60 miles) north of Phnom Penh.

Government forces fled to the town after suffering 63 killed in three hours of fighting said the statement, which could not be independently confirmed.

Sihanouk's allies, the Khmer Rouge, issued a peace plan on June 28 but Phnom Penh's state radio on Wednesday rejected it as "ridiculous" and just an attempt to prolong the 11-year-old war.

"Despite some embellishments and rewar-

ding here and there, the latest proposal of this gang of butchers only reiterates" proposals that Phnom Penh already has rejected, said a text of the broadcast seen yesterday.

The broadcast rejected the Khmer Rouge proposals for a United Nations peacekeeping force in Cambodia and formation of a quadripartite government comprising the Phnom Penh authorities and the guerrilla coalition. Phnom Penh must remain in power to organise elections, it said.

The Cambodian government has offered a \$1,000 reward to any government troops who capture a foreign journalist travelling with anti-government guerrillas, a resistance group said Thursday.

The reward offer could not be immediately confirmed with the Cambodian government.

North to open border

Seoul denounces move as propaganda

SEOUL, July 6 (AP): North Korea announced today that it will open a tiny portion of its border with South Korea next month to encourage unification, a South Korean news agency said.

It is the first time either of the rival Korean states has opened any portion of its border since the three-year Korean war ended in 1953. The two Koreas remain technically at war because no peace treaty was signed after that conflict.

Naewoo Press, a semi-official news agency specialising in communist affairs, said North Korea's Committee for the Peaceful Reunification between the Koreas since the division of the peninsula in 1945.

A South Korean statement issued after today's talks said "the historic top-level talks, headed by the prime ministers, appear certain to be held."

The opening would affect only 800 metres (yards) of the entire border, which stretches 248 kms (155 miles) roughly along the 38th parallel.

"For a successful progress of contact and visit between the North and the South, we will open the portion of our border at Panmunjom from Aug 15, and hope that the South side, too, will take a corresponding measure," the North Korean announcement said.

In Seoul, South Korean officials denounced the communist move as propaganda.

The Defence Ministry said it had not been officially notified of any report from North Korea and would not comment. South Korean law forbids a citizen from travelling to the North without government permission.

South Korean officials claimed it has aimed at encouraging South Korean radical groups to hold a unification rally at the border village on the country's national liberation day.

The North Korean move is insignificant because it affects only its sector of Panmunjom, which is very small, said a senior Seoul government official.

Panmunjom is an oval-shaped joint security area straddling a portion of the 248-km (155-mile) border between the two Koreas. It is where military officials of both sides irregularly meet to discuss alleged armistice violations.

It was not immediately clear whether both North and South Koreans, or foreigners, would be permitted to freely cross the border. In addition, South Korea also controls any passage through the heavily guarded border.

President Roh Tae-Woo refused yesterday to accept the resignation of Prime Minister Kang Young-Hoon, who was angry at being forced to make a public apology for perceived campaign misdeeds.

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A Vietnamese boy waits among the luggage at the Hong Kong's Kai Tak International Airport as he leaves for a regional transit centre in the Philippines. The first batch of 32 Vietnamese refugees left for Philippines on July 5 but still 55,000 boat people remain in camps and detention centres in Hong Kong. (Reuter wirephoto)

Extremist leader shot dead in Indonesia

JAKARTA, July 6 (UPI): Government agents in Indonesia's strongly Islamic western province of Aceh shot and killed a man believed to be the leader of the extremist movement that allegedly killed up to 30 people in the past three weeks, officials said.

The suspect, identified as Yusuf Abi, was believed to be the leader of a movement known as GPK, spokesman for the Bakti Barisan military command, Lt Col Achmad Sudjati, told reporters.

Yusuf was shot to death Sunday morning by military

authorities in Aceh Utara district, Sudjati said.

Yusuf apparently was killed when he resisted arrest by military officers in a raid against extremist violence in the province. The military officers also seized a gun belonging to Yusuf, authorities said.

On June 30, government officers shot and killed Yusuf's companion, identified as T. Iskandar, while another man escaped with a bullet wound in his foot. Two days earlier, the alleged extremists killed seven people including a 8-month-old baby in a minibus, officials said.

The official told Reuters an increasing number of US officials have concluded that Washington does not relax its strict opposition to this policy, countries providing haven to refugees will close their doors.

"If we maintain our opposition ... first asylum is going to collapse," he said referring to the policy of Hong Kong, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines of letting boat people land on their territories.

The official, who asked not to be identified, also said there is a real possibility an important meeting on this issue in Geneva on July 16 and 17 will end in failure.

The UN High Commissioner, Thorvald Stoltenberg, postponed the meeting originally set for June because of an impasse over the forced repatriation of boat people classified as illegal immigrants.

He is seeking to resolve this issue, which has raised tensions between the United States and Britain and among Hong Kong and Southeast Asian nations that give "first asylum" to Vietnamese refugees.

In May, these nations, overwhelmed by the influx, issued an ultimatum, saying "first asylum" would end unless Hanoi and Washington either accepted that boat people screened out as illegal immigrants would be deported to Vietnam or agreed to the establishment of a UN-administered centre for them.

The first group of Hong Kong's Vietnamese refugees to await Western resettlement in a Philipines holding centre left the British colony Thursday for Manila. (UPI)

Wael Al-Nisf & Partners Trading Company announces that the underlisted workers have left work without previous notice and warns against employing or harbouring them as they are still under the company's sponsorship.

Mohammed Lutfi Al-Hakim Kabeer Mohammed Al-Hakim Bangladeshi	Mahboul Al-Haq Shams Al-Haq Bangladeshi	Noor Al-Deen Abdu Egyptian	Botanai Parmer Winjicon Thai	Mohammed Minito Apro Miya Bangladeshi	Abdul Qader Kari Abdul Rob Bangladeshi	Wiyan Kamoon Thai	Abdul Fattah Mahmoud Ali Egyptian
Mohammed Abdul Raheem Mohammed Bangladeshi	Upali Robi Singh Sri Lankan	Gypho Litooy Dilus Filipino	Mohammed Mokdad Ali Bangladeshi	Aziz Rahman Abdu Manaf Bangladeshi			

Anyone who knows their whereabouts may contact the company on 4837416/4845772/4835050 or contact the nearest police station.



Singing together

Italian tenor Luciano Pavarotti chats with Spanish tenors Jose Carreras (left) and Placido Domingo (centre) during a rehearsal for World Cup

charity performance. They will be singing together for the first time. (Reuter wirephoto)

Mind your own affairs

China warns seven industrialised powers

BEIJING, July 7. (AP): Chinese Communist Party chief Jiang Zemin warned the seven industrialised powers against interfering in China's internal affairs during their summit next week.

He said the group of seven should "confine themselves to discussion of economic and other issues among themselves," according to a paraphrase by the official Xinhua news agency.

The wire service dispatch of Jiang's interview yesterday with Noboru Watanabe, president of the Japanese Mainichi newspaper group, was released early today.

"Some Western countries are very unwise to have imposed economic sanctions on China, as this will bring about no positive result but will, instead, arouse the Chinese people's resentment," Jiang said.

Many ordinary Chinese initially welcomed the sanctions, saying the government should be punished in some way for killing hundreds, perhaps thousands, of people to crush the democracy movement. However, there have been more calls recently for lifting of the sanctions, which some say are beginning to hurt the Chinese people directly.

Japan, the only Asian member of the group of seven, already has eased its ban on loans to China, granting two loans earlier this week for \$1.6 million to be used to improve drinking water.

However, talks on a five-year, \$5.2 billion loan package, broken off last year, have not resumed.

Japan's action reflects a general softening toward China following the lifting of martial law in Beijing in January, the release of nearly 900 people arrested for joining the democracy movement and the release of astrophysicist and dissident Fang Lizhi last month from hiding in the US embassy in Beijing.

"If (the Western nations) interfere in the affairs of other countries, I am afraid that would not be proper," Jiang said.

His remarks contrasted with a Foreign Ministry statement last week urging the group of seven to "take timely, positive steps by seizing the opportunity to improve relations with China."

Jiang also said former party chief Zhao, who has not been seen in public for more than 13 months, remains a party member and "no change has been made in his treatment in terms of material well-being."

China has not strayed from the path of reform and is trying to expand co-operation with foreign countries, Premier Li Peng said yesterday.

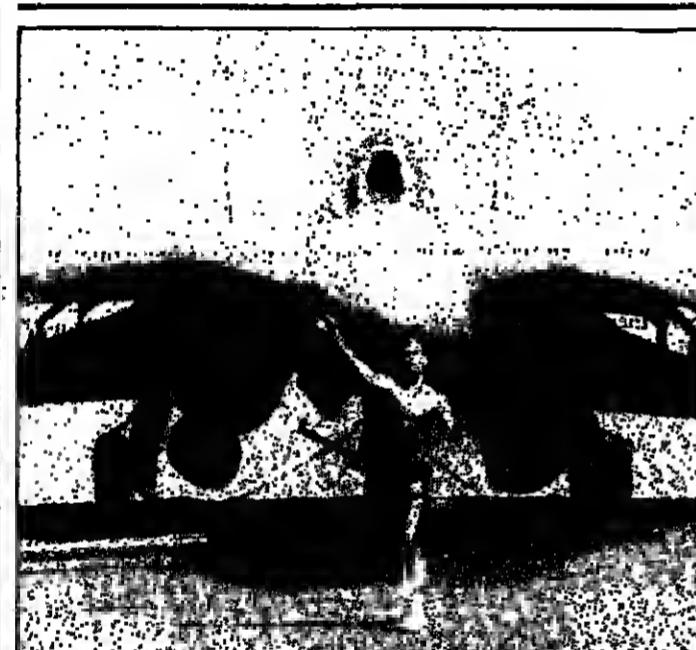
He told former French Prime Minister Raymond Barre, who is visiting China that Beijing welcomed co-operation with foreign states.

"Our reform is constantly deepening with its content enriched all the time," Li was quoted as saying by the official New China News Agency.

China is willing to develop co-operation in diversified forms with all countries, including France."

Economic Summit —

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Playful officer

An officer on the flight deck of the US aircraft carrier Carl Vinson plays football with a shipmate in front of a F-14 Tomcat fighter jet on Friday. The aircraft carrier is part of a group of US Pacific Fleet warships currently visiting Hong Kong. (Reuter wirephoto)

Singapore base access for US

Talks next week on accord

WASHINGTON, July 7. (AP): The United States will hold a new round of talks next week on a proposed defence agreement with Singapore that would allow US access to military facilities there, the Defense Department said yesterday.

The accord, which has been in the works since early this year, would not give the United States its own military base in Singapore, said Lt. Cmdr. Edward H. Lundquist, a department spokesman.

He said no US planes or ships would be based there permanently. If the deal is concluded, the US F-16 fighter planes would be allowed to conduct occasional training missions in Singapore, navy ships could use Singapore's strategically located port, and a small contingent of US military personnel — probably fewer than 200 — would be housed there to help maintain the facilities, Lundquist said.

The Los Angeles Times reported yesterday that it was possible that a final agreement would be signed when Secretary of State James Baker visits Singapore in August.

Lundquist said he could not say how close the two sides are to final agreement, but that the remaining issues are mainly legal technicalities. He said a new round of talks was scheduled for next Wednesday through Friday in Washington.

Lundquist stressed that the proposed use of Singapore military facilities would not be a substitute for the larger US forces at Clark air base and Subic Bay naval base in the Philippines.

Lundquist said the main outstanding issue was the legal status of US military personnel who would be stationed in Singapore under the agreement. One open question, he said, was what rights the Americans would have if the event they are arrested on criminal charges.

Economic Summit —

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HK, Hanoi agree on refugees to be repatriated

HONG KONG, July 7. (Reuter): Hong Kong said today it had agreed with Hanoi on a list of "several hundred" Vietnamese boat people who had not volunteered for repatriation but were to be sent home from camps in the British colony.

"We have submitted a list of several hundred screened-out people for repatriation. I can't remember how many," Alastair Asprey, Hong Kong secretary for security, said.

"The Vietnamese (officials) have indicated they will accept their repatriation," he said in a radio interview.

Since June 1988, Hong Kong has screened all arriving boat people, dividing genuine political refugees, eligible

for resettlement overseas, from those termed economic migrants, who the government says must return to Vietnam.

Aid workers and diplomats said the new agreement was an attempt by Hong Kong to circumvent strong opposition from Washington and Hanoi to the concept of forced repatriation. It provided a less controversial form of deportation for those boat people who, although they did not want to return, would not resist repatriation.

"There are now very strong signs of some kind of breakthrough," said one Western diplomat in Hong Kong who follows the boat people issue.

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A Burmese student climbs up the wall of the Burmese embassy to put up a poster demanding Rangoon government release all political detainees during the protest yesterday. The protesters also urged foreign countries to stop investing in Burma until the military government hands over power. (Reuter wirephoto)

TV shows secret film of Carlos

Hungary's communist authorities gave refuge to PFLP leader

BUDAPEST, July 7. (Reuter): Secret film of talks between Hungarian officials and the international terrorist Carlos about 10 years ago was shown on Hungarian television today.

The broadcast on state television's Panorama News programme came 10 days after Interior Minister Balazs Horvath told Parliament that Hungary's communist authorities gave refuge to Carlos in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

The grainy grey film appeared to show two counter-espionage officials telling Carlos and a deputy called Steve that his guerrilla group could no longer base its operations in Hungary but transit visits and short stays would still be allowed.

Carlos, dressed in a suit, demanded information from the Hungarians about East European secret service reports on terrorist activity in West Germany.

Panorama also showed interviews with Hungarian secret service officials who met Carlos or

who knew about his presence in Hungary. It said it was working in Budapest and Moscow on a full-length programme on the Carlos affair.

Carlos, born Lynch Ramirez Sanchez in Venezuela in 1949, joined the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine in the late 1960s and was blamed for a string of guerrilla operations ranging from West Europe to Japan.

The most dramatic was the kidnapping in 1975 of 11 oil ministers attending a meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) in Vienna.

In 1986, Israel's Davar newspaper said he was believed to be dead and buried in Libya, probably killed by Libyan agents because he knew too much about Arab intelligence networks.

Andras Petreszky, formerly responsible for anti-terrorist activity in Hungary, told Panorama that Carlos lived like a "man of the world" in Budapest, enjoying luxury hotels or

apartments, women and the best Western whiskies.

But he said Carlos was in a bad nervous condition when they met. "His hands trembled and there were visible signs of fear," he said.

Miklos Redei, former head of Hungary's counter-espionage service, said Carlos and his group were never invited to Hungary but the authorities did not dare to arrest or "liquidate" him.

"We knew that if something happened to Carlos here that the whole terrorist group would have declared revenge on Hungary. Redei said.

All the enthusiasts abroad would have been exposed to their revenge."

Hungarian newspapers published on June 28 the text of a letter dated April 2, 1980, from Carlos to Janos Kadar, Hungary's communist leader from 1956 to 1988.

Soviet optimism

German unification resolution by year-end

EAST BERLIN, July 7. (AP): Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze believes the external aspects of German unification, including its military alignment, will be settled by the end of this year, a West German newspaper reported today.

Shevardnadze's comments marked the first time the Soviet Union gave an approximate timetable for resolution of the so-called two-plus-four talks on German unification.

"We are in favour of the fastest possible pace of work, for continual

meetings of experts" at the two-plus-four talks, Shevardnadze said.

"If all parties involved make a concerted effort all remaining questions can be solved before ... late 1990," the Soviet official said.

Shevardnadze spoke in an interview to be published tomorrow by the Bild Am Sonntag newspaper.

The most divisive issue at the two-plus-four talks, which include the two Germanys, the Soviet Union, Britain and France, is the question of Nato membership for a united Germany.



Revenge bombing

A bomb believed planted by Basque separatists seriously injured a policeman on Saturday in what police said was revenge for recent police success against the terrorists.

The bomb ripped through the policeman's car as he drove to work in his northern Basque city, a police spokesman said. He described the attack as reprisal by the Basque terror group ETA for the death of a three-person commando team on June 25.

Doctors at a local hospital had to amputate the policeman's legs, a hospital spokesman said.

On Friday, politicians who mapped out the economic unification of the two German states agreed to a timetable for finishing talks on a political merger.

The two nations are negotiating a treaty that will reconcile the different laws of the countries and build a political framework for a united Germany.

Guenther Krause, East Germany's top negotiator and the Parliament state secretary, said negotiators agreed to hold a series of talks that will result in a final treaty by the end of August.

Krause said the party should mandate that Berlin is the capital of a united Germany. Bonn is now the West German capital and East Berlin is the East German capital.

However, West German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble told reporters that the decision should be made by a newly elected parliament of both nations.

Krause also said that the exact date of German elections would be decided by the end of this month.

The political treaty would be ratified by both Parliaments. East Germany would then hold elections in October to create five state governments, to match the West German state government system.

Common German elections would be held in December and the two countries would formally merge a day later.

He said he was quitting in order not to be a reason to increase political tension. "Now

the resignation was met with wild delight by the pavement protesters.

Despite heavy winds and rain, some 200 demonstrators spent Friday night on the same stretch of pavement, which they marked "communist-free zone." The protesters, including teachers and university lecturers, said they did not support any political party and expected their numbers to swell later.

"We want democracy and a fair trial of the people who caused the present tragic situation in Bulgaria," one protester said.

Some demonstrators have erected tents near the offices in a central Sofia square. Other protesters said they would settle for written assurances that their demand would be considered — provided these were given before the country's newly-elected national assembly holds its first meeting next Tuesday.

Student leader threatens to go on hunger strike

BUCHAREST, July 7. (Reuter): The mother of an arrested Romanian student leader said today that he was threatening to go on hunger strike unless his conditions in jail improved.

Maria Munteanu, the first person to visit her son Marian in Jilava prison hospital near Bucharest, said he complained of headaches and amnesia.

She said he asked prison authorities a week ago for medical attention but had not yet received an answer. He also demanded to see his lawyer.

"He was very angry. If he is kept in these conditions he will refuse food in a couple of days," she told Reuters by telephone.

The National Salvation Front government blamed Munteanu, leader of Bucharest University Students' League, for opposition riots last month.

Munteanu, an advocate of non-violence, has repeatedly denied he instigated the anti-government demonstrations.

Junta resists transfer

Burma prevents pro-democracy meetings

BANGKOK, July 7. (AP): Burma's military rulers have broken up pro-democracy meetings as they continue to resist the transfer to civilian rule following a decisive electoral defeat, diplomats said yesterday.

Authorities detained 33 students overnight this week to prevent them from meeting in the northern town of Mandalay, one Western diplomat said. He said soldiers surrounded the monastery where the students had planned to meet.

The students belonged to the All Burma Federation of Student Unions, which has strongly criticised the government, he said.

The diplomat said that a week earlier, troops halted a prayer service in Mandalay organised by 500 supporters of pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi

to celebrate her birthday. The hall in which the service was to be held remains closed, he said.

He and another diplomat, reached in Rangoon by telephone from Bangkok, spoke on condition of anonymity.

Ms. Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD) won 396 of the 485 parliamentary seats in the May 27 parliamentary election, the first multi-party polls in three decades to Burma. She has been sequestered under house arrest for one year.

The vote was seen as a clear rejection of the military junta that seized power and suppressed pro-democracy demonstrations in September 1988.

The diplomats said the government has done little to prepare for its promised transfer of power to the newly elected government.

الكتاب من المجلة

General blasts top Kremlin leadership

Gorbachev indecisive, Shevardnadze too hasty

MOSCOW, July 6, (Reuter): A Soviet general who has blasted Kremlin disarmament and East European policy today criticised President Mikhail Gorbachev as indecisive and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze as too hasty.

Major-General Ivan Mikulin, a delegate to the 28th Communist Party congress, said his comments yesterday had focused on the hurried way the Soviet Union was pulling its forces out of the territory of its Warsaw Pact allies.

"I was not talking about dissatisfaction in the army with our foreign

policy in general," Mikulin, chief of the political department of the southern army group, told reporters as the congress went into its fifth day today.

"I spoke only of the hasty steps our Foreign Ministry took in connection with pulling the troops out of Eastern Europe," he said.

Moscow has agreed with the new non-communist governments in Hungary and Czechoslovakia to withdraw some 125,000 troops from there by the middle of next year.

"I would vote against Shevardnadze as a member of the Politburo

because we are in too much of a hurry in our foreign policy," Mikulin said.

The foreign minister, in a speech to the congress on Tuesday, expressed virtual indifference about whether he continued to sit on the party's ruling Politburo.

Asked his opinion on Gorbachev, who is party leader as well as state president, Mikulin said: "I like him personally, but in my opinion we need more decisiveness in our general secretary."

In remarks to the congress's foreign policy working group yesterday, Mikulin accused Soviet diplomats of "looking at the world through rose-coloured glasses" and said the West was "building up its own security exclusively at our expense."

His comments echoed criticisms at a Russian Federation Communist Party conference last month by officers who said Moscow was retreating from Eastern Europe without a fight. The charges have caused alarm among liberal Soviet politicians.

After a day of debates in seven working groups — virtually all of which heard sharp clashes between conservatives and radicals over party policies — the congress resumed in full session today.

In a conciliation move, Moldavian party leader Pyotr Luchinsky proposed a nationwide meeting of all the country's parties and movements to produce what he called a joint declaration on civil consensus.

This would enable the country to get down to tackling its problems, "putting aside offences, ambitions and prejudices," he said.

Luchinsky said that if the Soviet Union was to be turned into a confederation of sovereign states — an idea floated in working group debate yesterday — then the 15 republics' communist parties should also have greater sovereignty.

In an interview today with the daily Sovetskaya Rossiya, Viktor Alksnis, a Latvian communist official favouring close ties with Moscow, described the confederation plan as "a stab in the back."

■ Soviet miners have cast a shadow over the congress, moving ahead with plans for a protest strike next Wednesday to demand the government's resignation and an end to party domination of daily life.

A radical programme by coal miners demands the nationalisation of party property and the abolition of party cells in the armed forces, the KGB, Interior Ministry and the workplace.

■ The Communist Party chief of Azerbaijan, where Soviet troops crushed a nationalist uprising in January, charged that perestroika had caused bloodshed and drew a comparison with the Stalin era.

Farmers in the southern industrial city of Leipzig said today that they would dump 10,000 litres (2,640 gallons) of milk on the streets on Monday to protest the loss of business, ADN said.

De Maiziere and other officials have sharply criticised the higher prices that greeted East Germans during their first week in a free market economy.

The East German news agency ADN reported price rises of 400 per cent to 600 per cent in the northern Mecklenburg and Pomerania regions and said there were long shopping lines in the southeastern city of Dresden.

"There are cities in the GDR (East Germany) where the average price levels are way above those in West Germany," said East German Economics Minister Gerhard Pohl.

Kalugin termed a hero

MOSCOW, July 6, (Reuter): Soviet liberals have rallied to the defence of a former KGB major-general, whose campaign to bring perestroika to the security agency cost him his rank but made him a hero of the left.

The Moscow City Council, a hotbed of radicalism, passed a resolution on Wednesday demanding the resignation of the KGB chief, accusing him of persecuting Major-General Oleg Kalugin.

"We state our resolute protest in connection with the actions of the KGB and believe that KGB chairman Vladimir Kryuchkov should resign," the resolution said.

It also asked Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to consider the matter personally.

The latest edition of the liberal weekly Moscow News also defended Kalugin, who retired from the KGB in March and was stripped of his rank and state honours last weekend.

In the long run, Kalugin has done more for the prestige of the KGB than official troubadours: he demonstrated that the committee has brave people, anxious for perestroika within the organisation," Moscow News said in a long, laudatory article.

It said his treatment at the hands of his former KGB (committee for state security) comrades was "in the best tradition of persecuting dissidents."

Kalugin last month told a Soviet newspaper that recent reforms in the KGB were also so much "camouflage" and the ensuing controversy has thrust him firmly into the growing feud between conservative and liberal Communist Party factions.

In an interview published on Tuesday, he told the youth daily Komsomolskaya Pravda that the KGB has been crippled by defections to the West and he defended himself against KGB allegations that he had been an incompetent officer.

Last month he told the same newspaper that a recent "charm offensive" by the KGB was all for show.

Galina wins back house

MOSCOW, July 6, (Reuter): Former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev's daughter Galina has won a court action for the return of a country house, a Mercedes-Benz car and other valuables, a Moscow newspaper reported on Friday.

The valuables — including a cash deposit of 65,500 rubles (\$104,000 at the official rate), antique furniture and stuffed animals — were confiscated when her husband Yury Churhanov, whom she married in 1971 and who then quickly rose to become a first deputy interior minister.

Churhanov is serving a 12-year jail sentence for taking bribes during the rule of his father-in-law who died in 1981 after ruling for 17 years and is now widely condemned for leading the country into economic and social decay.



Yeltsin speaks with a delegate of the Soviet Communist Party Congress. (Reuter wirephoto)

Party is on road to ruin

Warns Yeltsin

MOSCOW, July 6, (AP): Boris Yeltsin warned Soviet communists today that they are following their Eastern European comrades on the path to ruin and could even be brought to trial by a society demanding punishment for their misdeeds.

The silver-haired populist shook up the fifth day of the party's congress with a blistering attack on the traditionalists who

he said had dragged the party into a dead end and could even be brought to trial by a society demanding punishment for their misdeeds.

"If you think there is a different possibility, look at the fate of the communist parties of Eastern Europe," he said. "They separated themselves from the people, didn't understand their role, and were left on the side of the road."

Underlining the congress' traditionalist mood, Yeltsin's attack was met with only a smattering of applause from the more than 4,600 delegates in the Kremlin's Palace of Congress.

Yeltsin parlayed his popularity among Soviet citizens into election in late May as president of Russia, the largest of the Soviet republics.

Since quarreling with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in late 1987, he has been a constant critic of the Soviet leader, demanding more and quicker reforms.

Yeltsin proposed the new name of the Party of Democratic Socialism. He said the five-day-old congress should elect a new leadership which would call a further congress in six months or a year.

He appeared to suggest that ultimately a "union of democratic forces" should be created, combining a rejuvenated party with other groupings.

He proposed that party cells be withdrawn from the army, the KGB security police and state organisations. Workers in factories should decide the fate of the cells there.

Yeltsin said that if radicals broke away from the party, as some have threatened to do, a popular struggle would start to nationalise the party's property and bring it to trial for damage inflicted on the country.

He said the main issue at the congress was not the fate of perestroika.

Soviet military convoy rumbles through Estonia

Show of force causes postponement of veterans' reunion

MOSCOW, July 6, (AP): Soviet armour rumbled through an Estonian hamlet in a show of force yesterday, causing postponement of a veterans' reunion including soldiers who fought in Nazi brigades, the Estonian government said.

Organisers postponed the reunion scheduled for tomorrow and Sunday after a convoy of 28 Soviet armoured vehicles and 15 load troop trucks passed through Tori, said the Baltic republic's official Estonian news service.

"Today they arrived in Tori and drove through the town fully armed," the news agency said. "The Estonian government and the Ministry of Internal Affairs were not informed about the movement of the

troops."

"The Estonian government strongly protests the actions taken by the army, which can do nothing but exacerbate the already tense situations, especially in situations such as this where the actions are connected to political ambitions," it added.

The news service said the soldiers had apparently left after passing through early Thursday.

The reunion planned by the Heritage Society, a group seeking to promote awareness of Estonian history, was indefinitely postponed, it added. Calls to the Heritage Society's chapter in Tori went unanswered.

The dispute highlighted the sensitivity of World War II allegiances among the Baltic republic's citizens, an issue underlying Estonia's independence drive.

Soviet soldiers entered independent Estonia in 1940 under Adolf Hitler's pact with Josef Stalin dividing Eastern Europe into spheres of influence. Estonia and its Baltic neighbours were absorbed into the Soviet Union.

Heritage Society members issued an open invitation to soldiers who fought for Estonian independence, and included those who served in the German army in World War II, Estonian news reports and Heritage Society officials said.

The invitation also was extended to the handful of soldiers still alive who fought both Germans and Russians to establish Estonian independence in 1918, and partisans who fought a guerrilla war against Soviet power.

A leader of the Heritage Society, Argakas Kullo, said by telephone from the Estonian capital of Tallinn that about 65,000 to 70,000 Estonians served in German military units during World War II. He said most fled West with the German army when it retreated in 1944.

He said the society does not know how many former German army soldiers might still be in the republic, or how many would have attended the gathering.

STOCKHOLM, July 6, (Reuter): A Soviet airliner hijacked to Sweden by an apparently unarmed teenager on Thursday returned to the Soviet Union on Friday with its passengers and crew, officials at Stockholm's Arlanda Airport said.

Police said the hijacker, who had told the crew that he had a bomb in his briefcase, was being held in prison and was expected to be charged later on Friday. No bomb was found.

It was the eighth successful attempt to hijack of an Aeroflot airline since June 9 when a 17-year-old youth forced a domestic Soviet flight to switch to Arlanda.

The latest hijacker, whose date of birth was given as 1971, told police he had received notice he would be

1,500 Albanians seek refuge

Conditions inside embassies getting worse

VIENNA, Austria, July 6, (AP): Diplomats in the Albanian capital today said conditions were worsening inside embassies packed with hundreds of Albanians seeking refuge from the last hardline communist government in Europe.

More than 1,500 Albanians packed the embassies in Tirana, requesting "foreign help out of their country, even though the government of communist leader Ramiz Alia pledged to issue them travel papers," foreign officials said.

The policy-setting central committee of Albania's Communist Party met today in emergency session for the second day in a bid to resolve the crisis facing Europe's poorest and most isolated country.

Attempts by foreign governments to send supplies and personnel to ease conditions in the embassies have been rebuffed by authorities in Albania, and some diplomats spoke today of near intolerable conditions as a result.

Nonetheless, Albania assured the United Nations it will seek a "positive" resolution to the crisis, the Italian Foreign Ministry reported Friday from Rome.

UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar told Italian officials that he had received the promise from the Albanian Foreign Ministry, according to an Italian government statement.

The Albanian ministry "provided assurances, albeit of a general nature, regarding a positive evolution of the question of the refugees," said the statement.

The rush in recent days to the embassies in Tirana follows last year's exodus of East Germans to embassies in other East European countries shortly before the fall of their hardline



A street scene in a downtown Tirana Square in Albania. (Reuter wirephoto)

about 50 each in the Polish and Czechoslovak embassies and 36 in the Hungarian mission.

An Italian embassy employee in Tirana described the compound as overcrowded. "The situation is more tragic than comic," said the official, reached by telephone from Rome. "This is an embassy designed for 10 people."

The official spoke on condition of anonymity and declined to elaborate.

The Austria press agency reported from Tirana that the embassies were growing short of food and medicines. The West German spokesman said the water supply, cut off for seven hours a day, posed the largest problem.

Diplomats said there were

cribbling the situation in the neighbouring French mission, said it was "jammed," with many sleeping in the embassy garden.

Scores more were reported in a dozen other foreign missions.

Foreign governments are urging that asylum seekers be allowed to emigrate quickly without fear of retribution if they leave the foreign embassies.

Italian Foreign Minister Gianni de Michelis had urged Perez de Cuellar to examine the issue.

The Albanian Foreign Ministry promised yesterday to grant passports to those who have sought refuge in foreign embassies in an attempt to flee their homeland, which is on the Adriatic bordering Greece and Yugoslavia.

Final unification talks begin

Metalworkers stage 'warning strike' for higher wages

EAST BERLIN, July 6, (AP): Officials from both German states began today on the final phase of unification.

Meanwhile East German miners vowed to dump milk on the streets to protest lost business, and about 10,000 East German metalworkers held one-hour "warning strikes" to demand higher wages and job security.

The East German metalworkers are represented by the East German affiliate of the West German union, IG Metall, said union spokesman Detlef Kuchenbecker.

Metalworkers have been holding strikes daily at various plants to

press their demands.

East German Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere led his delegation into the negotiations with West German officials on a state treaty that would deal with the final aspects of creating a single Germany.

In an interview with the East German news agency, ADN, de Maiziere said the pact should give East Germans the same rights as West Germans.

He said the treaty should also call for Berlin to be the capital of a united Germany.



East German jobless: The East German jobless rate rose sharply by more than one-third to 1.6 per cent, the Central Labour Administration said Wednesday.

The number of unemployed jumped by 47,289 to a total of 142,096 people, while the number of vacancies dropped by 12,912 to 41,372 in June.

The number of unemployed East Germans is rising faster than necessary, although the conservative-led East German government is trying to implement programmes to save jobs. Social Affairs Minister Regine Hildebrandt said Wednesday.

For the same goods have fluctuated by as much as 100 per cent since the July 1 monetary merger with West Germany, Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere told parliament on Thursday.

He said some businesses were exploiting local monopolies and East Germans' inexperience in comparative shopping. Inflated prices for such basics as milk could not be explained by transport or other overhead costs.

German money union unrest: The smiles and champagne that greeted German economic union four days ago have given way to gloom as East Germany faces growing labour unrest, a slump in industrial production and rocketing unemployment.

Tens of thousands of workers are staging wildcat strikes across the country, fearing for their livelihoods as East Germany's crippled economy is plunged into the cauldron of free market economics.

Industrial output is down five per cent on a year ago and many businesses are on the verge of collapse.

"This is just the start of the process," said Manfred Melzer, an East German specialist at the West Berlin-based Div Economic Research Institute.

World News Roundup

America

Carter receives medal: Former president Jimmy Carter received the city's Liberty Medal in a patriotic celebration Wednesday, reminding Americans that human rights are key elements in the fabric of the nation.

Carter was warmly welcomed by a Philadelphia crowd of 10,000 as he was awarded the bronze medal in front of Independence Hall, where the Declaration of Independence was signed exactly 214 years ago. The award also comes with \$100,000 prize. (UPI)

New Yorkers fear walking alone: Nearly one out of every two New Yorkers is afraid to walk alone on the city's streets after dark, a survey released Wednesday showed.

The poll, conducted in phone interviews with 752 local residents by Princeton Survey Research Associates in mid-June, found that 46 percent of the respondents were afraid to walk by themselves through the city at night.

The survey, commissioned by television station WNYW-TV Fox News, also concluded New Yorkers are not sure the police can be of much help. (UPI)

"Dart man" hunt: Summer in New York has the city's police searching some of Manhattan's busiest streets for a man who has caused pain in the back and bayside for dozens of women — "the dart man."

The man, using a straw as a blow gun, shoots pins at nearly dressed women.

He aims for the bayside but sometimes hits their backs, police said, adding that so far 24 women have complained of being attacked since June 26. The latest attacks came on Tuesday when two women were hit. (Reuter)

Bakker loses bid: Disgraced television evangelist Tammy Faye Bakker lost her bid on Thursday to establish her new church in a Florida warehouse.

The Orange County zoning board rejected unanimously Bakker's bid to locate her new covenant ministry — the successor to the scandal-plagued PTL (Praise the Lord/People that Lovet club) — in the building, a board spokesman said. (Reuter)

Hospital mix-up: A woman was told her newborn son had died in a hospital and discovered three days later he was still alive, hospital officials said in Middletown, New York.

Juanita Ayala of Middletown gave birth by cesarean section June 28 at Horton Memorial Hospital. Her baby was ill and was taken to Westchester County medical centre in Valhalla while Ayala recovered at Horton.

On Sunday, Ayala was told her baby had died. On Tuesday, the day the child's obituary appeared in a local newspaper, a Westchester doctor called to tell her the baby was alive. (AP)

UFO symposium: Hundreds of UFO enthusiasts — from scientists and ministers to self-styled abductees — are gathering in Pensacola for a weekend symposium about flying saucers and extraterrestrials.

The 21st annual mutual UFO Network Symposium features a host of speakers and a tour of a suburb where residents claim to have seen UFOs, parapsychic beams and luminous aliens over the past few years.

Kathryn Ware, publicity chairwoman, said Thursday 720 people from across the United States and abroad are registered to attend the symposium Saturday and Sunday. (UPI)

Escaped prisoner nabbed: A prisoner escaped Thursday while being treated at a hospital and was recaptured on a subway train a short time later, in his hospital gown and an IV still attached to his arm, authorities said.

Elynn Sanchez, 29, bolted before dawn from Kings County hospital in Brooklyn, where he was being treated for a swollen knee while awaiting trial on a grand larceny charge, said Ruby Ryles, a correction department spokeswoman.

Sanchez came out of a bathroom, asked a guard about his medication, then dashed down four flights of stairs to the street, said Ryles. (AP)

Cabinet sold for \$15m: An American collector paid £8.56 million (\$15.1 million) Thursday for an 18th century Italian cabinet, the highest auction price ever paid for a piece of furniture or for artwork other than a painting, Christies auctioneers said.

Bisia Johnson, wife of the late Johnson and Johnson pharmaceuticals heir J. Seward Johnson, was in the front row at Christie's auction house and bid for the cabinet, an extraordinary Baroque work decorated in gilt, bronze, ebony and pietra dura — marble inlays of birds and flowers. (AP)

Seeks to re-enter US: A Nazi rocket scientist and alleged Nazi war criminal who wants to return to the United States joined a congressional town committee just a half-mile (1 kilometer) over the US border.

Congressman James Traficant Wednesday said Arthur Rudolph, who played a major role in designing and building the rocket that took Americans to the moon, passed a lie-detector test in which he denied any involvement in Nazi war crimes.

Traficant said Rudolph, who voluntarily left the United States in 1964 in a deal with the US government, deserves a hearing on his request to return. (AP)

Memorial for Soviet pilot: Soviet pilot Anatoly Grishchenko was eulogized Thursday as a hero who not only helped save his homeland from radiation poisoning but also whose courageous battle against leukaemia forged stronger ties between the people of the Soviet Union and the United States.

Grishchenko died Monday of pulmonary failure, losing his 2-week battle on a respirator against a lung infection that his radiation-weakened immune system was unable to fight. He was 53. (UPI)

Europe

Heart drug draws concern: New research has highlighted concerns over the use of the heart drug Corwin to treat patients with cardiac arrest, according to a report published in London Friday.

The drug improves symptoms of breathlessness and tiredness and prolongs the ability to exercise in patients with mild to moderate heart failure, the report, published in the UK medical journal the Lancet, said.

But Corwin is occasionally also prescribed to patients with severe cardiac arrest, with potentially dangerous results, the report warned. (Kuna)

No sign of restorers: The Leaning Tower of Pisa was closed six months ago for repairs — but nobody has yet turned up to fix it. Officially labelled a danger to the public, the 800-year-old white marble belltower was built in January for urgent restoration and work to arrest its ever-increasing tilt. (Reuter)



'Shadow senator'

Jesse Jackson announced Thursday that he will run for one of Washington's two "shadow senator" posts to lobby Congress to grant the city statehood.

Jackson, who has twice run for president of the United States, is one of the country's top black leaders. The population of Washington, also known as the District of Columbia, is about 80 per cent black.

"Statehood for the District of Columbia is the most important civil rights issue in America today," Jackson said. "More people live here than five states, we pay more taxes than 10 states, we pay more taxes per capita than 49 states, and yet no vote on Capitol Hill."

The shadow senators will be unpaid lobbyists for Washington's statehood, with no official duties.

The city has one delegate to Congress who may vote in committees but not on the floor of the full house. (Reuter wirephoto)

74.6 miles per hour

Hydrogen-fueled car successful

TOKYO, July 6, (UPI): A car using liquid hydrogen as fuel has made a successful test run, reaching the maximum speed of 74.6 miles per hour (120 km/h), but it still is a long way to start commercial production, researchers said today.

Researchers at Tokyo's Musashi Institute of Technology said the test proved that commercial production is feasible technically but economic problems, such as high costs for production of a system to keep liquid hydrogen at an extremely low temperature, have yet to be cleared.

The vehicle is at the world's highest level in performance, said Shiochi Furukawa, president of the institute.

The diesel engine of a small truck has been remodeled so as to use liquid hydrogen fuel and mounted on Nissan's sports car model, Fairlady Z.

The liquid hydrogen inside the fuel tank must be kept at an ultra-low level of 253 degrees Celsius below zero, using a high pressure pump. The opening and closing of the injection valve and ignition device are controlled by computer, the team said.



\$4.6m aid to Peru

Japan will provide a grant of 700 million yen (\$4.6 million) to Peru to finance an irrigation project in the Latin American nation. Kyodo news service reported Thursday.

Kyodo, quoting an unidentified government source, said the decision has already been informed to Peruvian president-elect Alberto Fujimori, shown above with raised arms, who made a triumphant visit to Japan this week.

The report came a few hours after Fujimori left Japan after a live-day tour of Japan, which included an audience with Emperor Akihito at the moat-surrounded imperial Palace. (Reuter wirephoto)

Abba lawsuit: Two members of the disbanded Swedish pop group Abba are suing their former record company for alleged underpayment of royalties.

Agnethe Faltskog and Benny Andersson, two of the group's four musicians, say Polar Music International has not carried out an agreement to increase their royalties to nine per cent from three since January 1983. (Reuter)

Controllers end strike: French air traffic controllers ended a three-day strike on Thursday but unionists said there could be further travel disruption in Paris during the holiday season.

"If things are not resolved quickly, there will be a renewed strike at the end of July," declared Daniel Reitke, secretary of the transport section of the communist-led CGT Labour Union. (Reuter)

Paris housing crisis: Paris officials ruled out on Thursday solving the capital's housing crisis by putting the homeless in empty flats, saying there were no vacant properties.

The Paris mayor's office made the statement at a news conference to answer public criticism of the city's lack of affordable housing, forcing thousands of people to sleep on pavements. (Reuter)

Porno photos, priest charged: A 77-year-old priest has been charged with taking pornographic pictures of children in the town he had served since 1948, court and church officials said Wednesday in Paris.

The British-born priest, Nicolas Giencross, was charged on Saturday by a Paris judge with inciting minors into lewd behaviour. He has been jailed pending further court proceedings. (AP)

Death to circumflex: France's language police pronounced the death sentence on the circumflex on Thursday.

Circumflex accents and hyphens in French compound words will not be used in schools after 1991, adding to last month's raid on accents and dashes. The reform affects about 1,200 words.

The circumflex is the hat-shaped accent which shortens the pronunciation of vowels. (Reuter)

Lassalle named director: Veteran actor and stage director Jacques Lassalle was named Wednesday as head of the prestigious Comedie Francaise, succeeding Antoine Vitez, who died last April.

Lassalle, who turns 54 this week, has directed the National theatre of Strasbourg since 1983.

Born in Clermont-Ferrand, he studied modern literature and sociology in Paris before entering the National Conservatory of Dramatic Arts where he worked with Beatrix Dusane and Fernand Ledoux. (AP)

Museum security tightened: Curators closed five smaller Parisian museums to individual visitors Thursday after a daring art thief cut a masterpiece by French impressionist painter Auguste Renoir out of its frame at the Louvre museum as tourists milled around during visiting hours.

Jacques Salloum director of the museums of France, said curators' policy would become more open following criticism by police that officials at the museums had treated security as "a taboo subject" in the past and been slow to use new techniques to prevent thefts. (UPI)

Cover up EEC scandal: Seven former Greek ministers agreed to cover up a 1986 illegal sale of Yugoslav corn by Greece to the European Economic Community, one of them said on Wednesday.

"We decided unanimously to cover up the Yugoslav corn affair," former foreign minister Karolos Papoulias told a court specially appointed to try former socialist prime minister Andreas Papandreou and some of his top ministers. (UPI)

Bust fetches record sum: A white marble bust of 18th century poet Alexander Pope fetched 935,000 pounds sterling (\$1.6 million) at a London auction on Thursday, a world record for an English bust, auctioneers Sotheby's said.

It is one of four portraits of Pope sculpted from life by the French-boro Louis-François Roubiliac between 1738 and 1741, and depicts the poet at the age of 53 with thinning hair and gaunt features. (Reuter)

Suspect drops appeal: West German guerrilla suspect Susanne Albrecht has dropped an appeal against her arrest in East Germany last month, clearing the way for her extradition to the West, the state prosecutor's office said on Thursday.

Albrecht was one of eight suspected members of the Red Army Faction (RAF) tracked down in East Germany where for years they enjoyed the protection of the former communist leaders. (Reuter)

Swissair's youngest VIP: At two years of age, Jennifer Jähn is Swissair's youngest VIP, having travelled extensively on the Swiss Airline's routes.

In a release, Swissair said that since her birth, the young Jennifer had travelled more than 500,000 Kilometres on air routes around the world.

With her parents, Jennifer has gone around the world several times via Asia and the Pacific. The family frequently travels to Europe and sometimes to Africa and the United States. (Kuna)

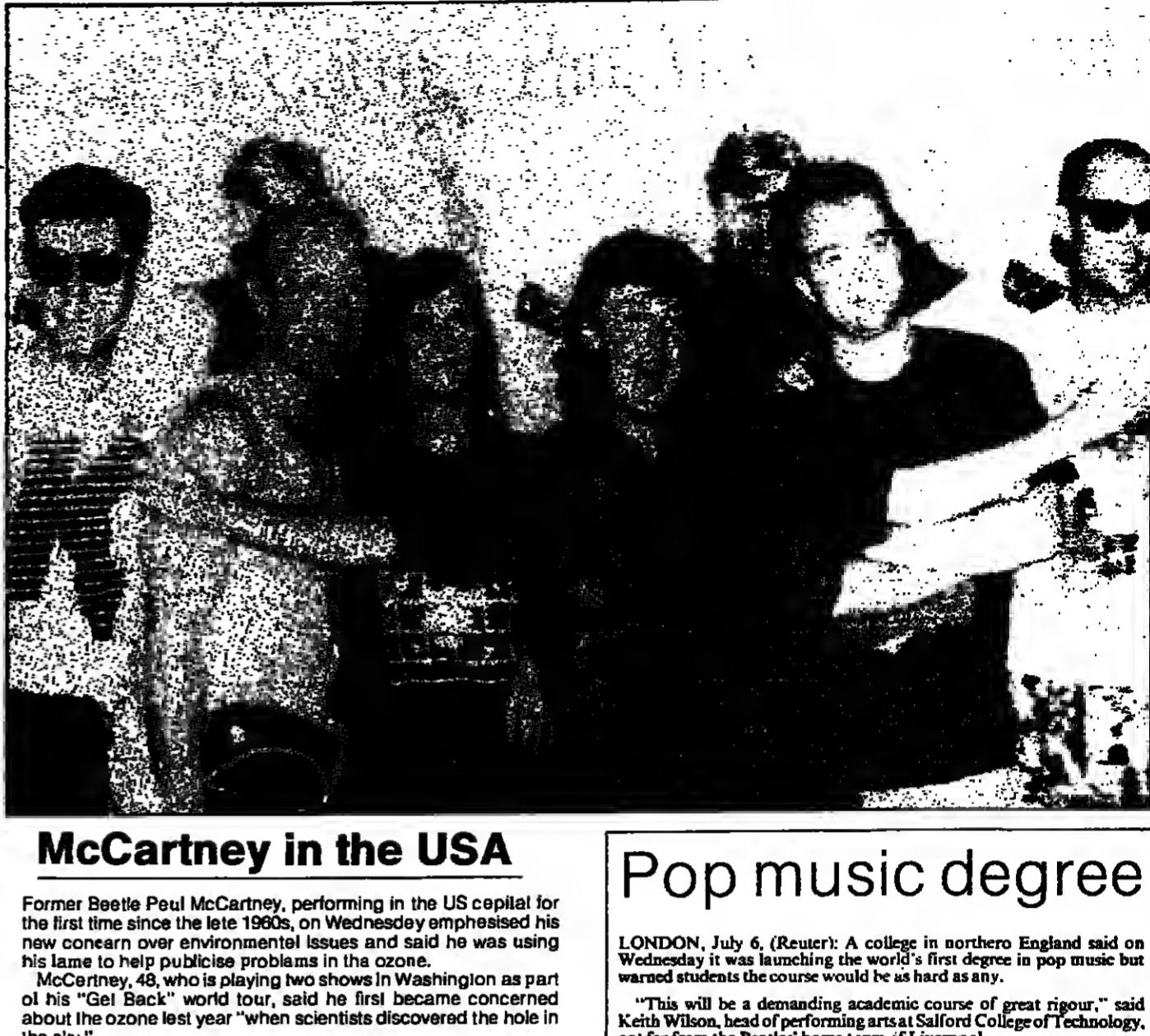
Yuppies study: A Swedish anthropologist has received 280,000 Swedish kronor (\$45,000) from the Swedish state's research fund to study the lives of yuppie women in Madrid.

Swedish professor Britt-Marie Thoren from Stockholm University was granted the money from the research funds to enable her to live together with Spanish yuppie women and lead their luxurious lifestyle for a year. Yuppe refers to young, upwardly-mobile professionals devoted to building wealth. (UPI)

Koalas under threat: Australia's cuddly koalas, already stricken by venereal disease, are now threatened by a mystery ailment that causes blindness, a scientist said on Thursday.

Up to half the country's 400,000 koalas have chlamydia, a potentially fatal disease of the urinary tract, Australian scientists estimate.

The new disease that attacks the eye was discovered among the marsupials on a tropical island off the Queensland coast, said ophthalmologist professor Lawrence Hirst. (Reuter)



McCartney in the USA

Former Beatle Paul McCartney, performing in the US capital for the first time since the late 1960s, on Wednesday emphasized his new concern over environmental issues and said he was using his fame to help publicise problems in the ozone.

McCartney, 48, who is playing two shows in Washington as part of his "Get Back" world tour, said he first became concerned about the ozone last year "when scientists discovered the hole in the sky."

"I mean we've been hearing this for years and going 'yawn, someone will fix it,' but when they discovered a 50-foot (15 metre) hole in the ozone, I think a lot of people got frightened and I was one of them."

And McCartney said that if people perceive him as using his celebrity to help get the message out, they are absolutely correct.

"I'm not really involved with specific issues, I'm just helping them get publicity. There are a lot of people out there who need someone like myself, unfortunately, to be their spokesman."

"They sit around watching TV going 'yeah yeah, we want the world clean, we want it safe,' unfortunately, governments don't seem to listen to them. It's fallen to the entertainers like myself to speak up, so that's really all I'm doing."

"But obviously when you see things like the Exxon oil spill and you see them arguing and suing Alaska about who's going to clean it up, I mean I think that's disgraceful," he said.

McCartney's tour, which began in late April and ends later this month, features a little bit of the old mix in with the new, incorporating material from various solo albums and as a member of the Beatles and Wings.

Above: McCartney with wife Linda (at his right) and band members greet the press. (Reuter wirephoto).

Pop music degree

LONDON, July 6, (Reuter): A college in northern England said on Wednesday it was launching the world's first degree in pop music but warned students the course would be as hard as any.

"This will be a demanding academic course of great rigour," said Keith Wilson, head of performing arts at Salford College of Technology, 600 feet from the Beatles' home town of Liverpool.

Students can apply for three John Lennon scholarship awards of 2,000 pounds (\$3,600).

"There are plenty of diplomas in popular music but no degrees," Wilson said of the three-year course starting in September. There have already been 200 applications for the 30 places.

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'Father Teresa' aiding victims of Pakistan ethnic strife

KARACHI, Pakistan, July 6. (AP): When the streets of Pakistan's largest city explode in gunfire, Abdul Sattar Edhi rushes out into the urban jungle.

With the siren on his beat-up mini-van blaring, he weaves through the streets on a mission of mercy, picking up the dead, the dying and the wounded.

A resurgence of ethnic and political violence has claimed more than 400 lives in Karachi and Hyderabad 150 miles (250 km) to the north, in the past month.

"When I go out on the streets of Karachi, I feel very sad," Edhi said of the bloodshed, which has transformed this once tranquil city on the sun-baked Arabian Sea into camps of heavily armed

gangs.

Edhi operates the Edhi Welfare Foundation, a \$5-million-a-year charity he founded 30 years ago using a battered pickup truck as a one-man free ambulance service.

Steadily he built it into one of the continent's biggest and best-organised social service networks, boasting a fleet of 615 ambulances, a rescue helicopter, dozens of blood banks and shelters for mental patients, heroin addicts, battered wives, orphans, runaways and anyone else his staff finds wandering without help or hope.

"I was born a Muslim, but true religion is the service of humanity," said the white-bearded, ruff-voiced Edhi. "I'm just one man. I just want to help people."

He is called a saint, an angel of mercy, and his deeds have earned him the nickname "Father Teresa," the counterpart of the Roman Catholic nun who has spent her life working with the destitute and dying in the slums of Calcutta, India.

His telephone rings at all hours. He is ready for any emergency, always carrying a packed bag with a small satchel that contains a change of clothes — grey baggy pants and a matching shirt — rubber sandals, glasses, a toothbrush and a near-toothless comb.

Although his work reaches every part of Pakistan, the heart of his operation is Karachi, a city crowded with 9 million people, mostly poor and

around the room at the two-burner hot plate, a wooden table and a cupboard crammed with their possessions. "This is my paradise," she said. The walls outside the dilapidated building are lined with fuzzy photographs of beggars who died in the alleyways around town.

Edhi and his wife, Bilquis, live in a stark room sandwiched between an office and a narrow room with only a wooden table where the bodies of Karachi's unwanted and unclaimed are laid out for burial.

Edhi's bed is a wooden plank resting on a steel frame. His wife has a mattress, her only concession to comfort.

Mrs Edhi, mother of four children, looks

earlier in the day. "Where else would they go?" he asked.

While Edhi cares for the dead, his wife looks after the living, setting up adoptions.

"I have seen so many children die. They were thrown in garbage cans, in gutters. So I thought I'll give them to the people who want them," she said.

She and her husband have set up homes for battered wives and centres to treat the city's 1 million heroin addicts. They also established a home for the handicapped and a girls' orphanage in two mansions in Karachi's affluent Clifton area, where Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto maintains a home.

Polls in northeast Sri Lanka

Parliament approves bill

COLOMBO, July 6. (Agencies): Parliament approved a bill today paving the way for elections in northern and eastern Sri Lanka, a key demand of Tamil rebels battling for an independent homeland.

The government, however, vowed to crush the rebels, while holding out the prospect of local elections in the Tamil stronghold. The moves appeared to be an effort to isolate the Tamil Tiger rebels from the Tamil populace.

Tamil residents participated in an earlier election, choosing provincial lawmakers opposed to the rebels. But the lawmakers later fled the

capital, fearing Tiger rebel attack after Indian troops withdrew from the island.

"I feel sorry for the Tigers," Deputy Defence Minister Ranjan Wijeratne told Parliament. "They have missed their golden opportunity ... to enter the democratic process. Now we will erase them from this Earth."

Wijeratne spoke during debate on legislation to dissolve the northeast provincial council and prepare for new elections.



Relatives of Sri Lankan policemen killed by Tamil rebels in Trincomalee, mourn during their cremation on July 1. (Reuter wirephoto)

Singh faces uphill task

Cleaning up corruption

NEW DELHI, July 6. (AP): Prime Minister V.P. Singh's administration came into office with the promise of clean government and has launched an anti-corruption campaign, but its success is far from assured.

In fact, agreement seems general among Western and Indian diplomats and businessmen that Singh's plan to shake up state-run trading firms and reform industrial policy will do little to stem India's rising

"Corruption poses a major problem for us," said Shankar Acharya, a ranking Finance Ministry official who made a groundbreaking study of India's "black" economy. "It seems to be growing daily."

The problem permeates Indian society.

Traffic cops expect "baksheesh," small bribes, to ignore violations. Businessmen consider payoffs and kickbacks part of the game.

"Every human deal has a beneficiary," said a high official of the State Trading Corp., India's biggest state-run trading house. "If I make a little profit on a deal that benefits India, what's wrong with that?" he would say, let's make use of it.

Factors that encourage corruption multiplied as India's political system and economy developed.

For about 20 years after independence from Britain in 1947, India was virtually a one-party state, run by the Congress Party. The growth of a viable opposition in the 1960s made elections more expensive, so political bosses turned to kickbacks for money.

An average of more than 5 percent a year in the 1980s, created more wealth and, with it, more temptation.

Last year, when prime minister Rajiv Gandhi and his Congress Party were voted out of power, corruption played a major role for the first time in the downfall of his government.

Also for the first time, dirty deals have been blamed for huge losses in some industries.

India's fertilizer industry lost \$32 million in 1989 after posting a \$50-million profit the previous year.

The reason, diplomats and Indian officials say privately, was that Agriculture Ministry officials wanted a \$25-million kickback on a 500,000-ton purchase of phosphoric acid from Morocco's government phosphates company.

Morocco refused, India cancelled the contract and the fertilizer industry was without essential phosphoric acid, the informants said.

Corruption "also contributes greatly to the balance of payments deficit that has built a foreign debt of about \$60 billion over the last 10 years, diplomats and Western economists say.

A report by a Western embassy in January, seen by the Associated Press, estimated one-third of India's Gross National Product disappears into the "black" economy.

"The sheer number of beneficiaries is seemingly endless and the habit and pressure so ingrained that it would require a major change in society as a whole" to end corruption, the report said.

Singh's administration announced two major changes in May and June.

Politics, corruption

Like hand, glove

ISLAMABAD, July 6. (AP): Politics and corruption go together in much of the world. In Pakistan, they are like hand and glove.

Corruption has been brought into the open by a newly free press and a shift toward democracy after more than a decade of military rule.

Accusations of questionable deals and financial wrongdoing turn up almost daily in newspapers at news conferences and in speeches.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto is not immune.

"The opposition has launched a witch-hunt against members of my government and members of my family, and their behaviour is nothing short of criminal," she said in a recent interview. "There is a well-laid conspiracy to hurl one false charge after another, to manipulate the media.

"They are making baseless charges to discredit the democracy. We have three courts in our country and people may go to these courts if they have anything."

They take such accusers to the courts, which act slowly and inflict little, if any, punishment.

Benzai's husband, Asif Ali Zardari, is one of the opposition's main targets.

"I am the soft belly," he said. "You hit me and she'll hit her."

Zardari and Benazir were married in 1987 while she still led the opposition to Gen. Mohammad Zia Ul-Haq, the late, military president.

"If an individual in her government is accused of being corrupt, the prime minister can get rid of him," he said. "If they say, the husband of the prime minister is corrupt, it echoes throughout the world. The larger the person, the louder the noise."

Benzai's two main rivals in parliament have filed a lawsuit accusing Zardari of trying to take over 287 acres (115 hectares) of Islamabad's National Park to build a luxury hotel and sports complex, the name of a company based in London.

One of them, Syed Abida Hussain, said "the only person listed as its director in London is Benazir's cousin."

The government accuses its political opponents of obtaining millions of dollars worth of bank loans during the 11 years Zia was in office, then writing them off or repaying them on unusually favourable terms.

Twenty opposition figures, including leaders Nawaz Sharif and Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, are under government investigation for alleged wrongdoing.

Sharif, chief minister of Punjab province, is accused of obtaining \$90 million in loans on special terms, with little collateral. He denies it.

"I offer myself to be investigated by a panel of supreme court judges, but along with me, Benazir and all politicians under suspicion should also be investigated for corruption," said Jatoi, leader of Combined Opposition Parties in the national assembly.

An alliance of 16 parties called the combined opposition recently issued a collection of documents intended to implicate Benazir's 18-month-old government and her family in shady deals.

Allegations range from taking over valuable land and awarding vast mineral concessions in Sindh province, her power base, to building factories with dubious loans and obtaining financial interests in hotels and trade.

Immediately after copies of the dossier were given to Western diplomats and foreign journalists, Benazir sent four cabinet ministers to rebut the charges.

First, all state-run trading firms were put under a new umbrella organisation, Bharat Business International, which has the power to monitor international contracts, a major source of illegal wealth.

Then, the government announced an industrial policy designed to break the bureaucratic stranglehold on business license — the "license raj," another major channel for bribes.

Diplomats and officials of the new government say international contracts are believed to have been a major source of revenue for the Congress Party when it and Rajiv Gandhi

gained power.

They say purchases were made abroad for inflated prices and the sellers kicked back most of the extra money to Indian politicians, who deposited it in party bank accounts.

Preliminary charges have been filed by the government's Central Bureau of Investigation in two cases involving members of the Rajiv

family.

It alleges bribes were paid to officials in a \$1.47-billion aircraft purchase from Europe's Airbus Industrie consortium and a \$1.4-billion arms deal with AB Bofors, the Swedish arms manufacturer.



Members of India's opposition Congress (I) Party shout anti-govt slogans during a demonstration outside Indian prime minister's residence in New Delhi. Youth Congress President Ramesh Chennithala (centre) leading the protest. (Reuter wirephoto)



Kashmir Muslims demanding freedom from India demonstrate outside the UN Military Observer Group office in Srinagar. (Reuter wirephoto)

Shoot-to-kill order in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, July 6. (Agencies): India banned gatherings of more than four people and gave police shoot-to-kill powers in the Kashmir valley yesterday as part of new measures to crack down on separatist insurgency.

State-run local television and radio said in a brief announcement that security forces would have "special powers to deal with terrorism."

The Muslim-majority valley, scene of a six-month revolt against Indian rule, was declared a "disturbed area" under laws which ban gatherings of more than four people and outlaw the carrying of weapons, ammunition or explosives of any kind.

All but the most junior policemen will have shoot-to-kill powers against a person who is indulging in any act which may result in a breach of public order and who ignores a warning, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said.

Police can also demolish buildings from which armed attacks are made or which are used as a hideout by armed gangs.

Jammu and Kashmir state Governor Girish SAXENA ordered the measures after a meeting with Indian Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed in the state's summer capital Srinagar.

The measures were ordered under the disturbed areas act, which has been used before to quell insurgency in other Indian border states.

Meanwhile, cars and most other vehicles stayed off the road yesterday after Muslim militants threatened to attack private transport in the Kashmir valley.

The streets of Srinagar were mostly deserted. Only husks and three-wheeled scooter taxis were out.

Muslim militant groups issued the ban Tuesday, saying security forces were using private cars for surprise raids on guerrilla hideouts.

The ban will be in force until Aug. 8, the groups said in a statement issued to local newspapers. Any vehicle defying their ban was liable to attack, they said.

Thursday's ordinance extends to areas near the Ceasefire Line which divides Kashmir between Indian and Pakistani control. The neighbouring countries have fought two wars over Kashmir.

An Indian government spokesman in New Delhi said Thursday's ordinance generalised powers which Kashmiri authorities had already been giving police on an ad hoc basis.

"Up to now they had to implement a particular clause of the penal code to have those powers," he said. "Now they don't have to do that."

Two 'Blackcats' killed in Punjab

AMRITSAR, July 6. (UPI): Sikh militants attacked an elite national security guard 'Blackcat' commando unit early today, sparking a gun battle that left four rebels and two commandos dead, police said.

The officials said the rebels, under cover of heavy fire, also were fortifying mortar positions around a 200-year-old fort in Jafna on Sri Lanka's northern peninsula where a garrison of Sinhalese soldiers has been under siege.

The Tigers ended a 13-month ceasefire June 11, renewing a seven-year war for independence for the Tamil-populated north and east regions from Sinhalese-dominated Sri Lanka.

Air force bombers pounded Tiger positions in thick jungles in the park to silence mortar and rocket fire. Dozens of bunkers had been smashed, officials said.

They said the military drive, which began on Saturday, is intended to clear roads to Manjar and reinforce troops under bombardment in two camps, one on a cashew plantation and one in Manjar town.

The area is known as a stronghold for Sikh separatists who are waging a bloody campaign for a theocratic Sikh state. About 800 of India's 4,000 "Blackcat"

commandos, a specially-trained unit of the national security guard, have been deployed to northern Punjab state to stem the violence.

Police said today's attack occurred about 2 a.m. as the commandos were waiting to ambush militants, who, according to intelligence reports, were going to stage a meeting in a farmhouse near the village of Varmala, about 20 miles (30 km) south of Amritsar.

The encounter lasted two hours as the commandos were fighting between commandos and militants in the nearby village of Manjar.

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Poland purges five old guards

Mazowiecki urges early polls

WARSAW, July 6. (Reuter): Polish Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki purged former communists and their allies from his cabinet today and urged early elections to set the seal on Poland's transition to democracy.

Mazowiecki fired five ministers, including three prominent ex-communists, to help freshen the image of the Solidarity-led government and revive its flagging programme of reforms.

He proposed elections be held "significantly earlier" than next spring, saying the fragile democracy created by Solidarity was threatened.

"Originally I expressed the view that totally democratic elections should take place no later than next spring. Today I emphasise the phrase 'no later than' as I feel that significantly earlier dates should also be considered," Mazowiecki told Parliament's lower house, the Sejm.



Mazowiecki (left) greets Sivicki at Warsaw airport, July 5. (Reuter wirephoto)



Pressure mounts on Mladenov

Bulgaria's President Petar Mladenov came under fresh pressure to resign on Friday. Even his own party newspaper sided with students demanding his departure.

Demonstrators staged fresh protests against Mladenov in Sofia and Western diplomats said tension was increasing.

Up to 1,000 protesters demonstrated outside the presidential office in the city centre. Student leaders issued a declaration demanding that Mladenov quit by 8 pm (1700 GMT). They threatened to call a general strike from Monday if he refused.

"Politics is a man's game," the paper Duma said in a front-page editorial. "Someone who is not good enough has to leave the stage."

Above, leading intellectuals Nicola Sevov (right) and Sarehdevi argue with Mladenov in front of the presidency in Sofia July 6. They too are supporting the strike. (Reuter wirephoto)

Havel becomes first president

Move towards democracy

PRAGUE, July 6. (Agencies): Former dissident playwright Vaclav Havel yesterday became Czechoslovakia's first freely elected President in 55 years, marking the end of the first phase in the country's move towards democracy.

"I promise that within the limits of my prerogatives and to the best of my ability ... I will do everything to help lead this country to a better future," he told thousands of well-wishers thronging the courtyard of Prague's Hradcany castle, the president's castle residence.

Havel, 53, was elected for a two-year term by a secret ballot of parliamentary deputies, winning the necessary three-fifths majority. He was the only candidate.

Of the 284 deputies present out of the 300-member Parliament, 234 voted for Havel and 50 against.

The Parliament itself was voted into office last month, in the country's first democratic elections since 1946.

E. Germany supplied arms to Syria, Egypt: DPA

BONN, July 6. (UPI): The West German news agency DPA said yesterday it had documents proving East Germany had supplied fighter planes and missiles to Egypt and Syria during the 1967 six-day war between Israel and Egypt.

The agency said it had obtained secret documents showing that the communist East German government was the first in the Warsaw Pact, after the Soviet Union, to respond positively to Egypt's request for arms supplies.

It said the documents showed that East Germany supplied Soviet-made bomber planes, several thousand missiles and other military equipment to Egypt and Syria.

The agency said the documents indicated — but did not clearly state — that East Germany also supplied tanks.

The document said that socialist countries needed to co-operate with Arab states in the fight against "Israel's aggression, carried out as part of the global strategy of US-imperialism."

Meanwhile, Syria yesterday protested a recent Israeli rocket attack near the buffer zone in the Golan Heights and called for "appropriate steps" to prevent such incidents in the future.

The Syrian protest was filed with Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar in a letter sent by the Damascus government.

The incident occurred June 6 but was reported to the United Nations only now because it took that long to establish that the rocket was made in the United States.

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Tehran desires to free captives

Kidnap chief falls out with Iran

BEIRUT, July 6. (Reuter): The kidnap master believed responsible for abducting most Western hostages in Lebanon has fallen out with Iran because of Tehran's desire to free the captives, Muslim fundamentalist sources told yesterday.

They said Imad Moughneyeh, one of the founders of the underground Islamic Jihad group, had rebased in Lebanon from Iran because of intense Iranian pressure to free hostages and improve links with the West.

Moughneyeh's group is believed to hold most of the 15 Western hostages in Lebanon, including American Terry Anderson, the longest-held Western captive, seized in May 1985.

Americans Robert Polhill and Frank Reed were released in Beirut in April in what the pro-Iranian captors described as goodwill gestures. Both Iran and Syria were heavily involved in winning the hostages' freedom.

"Imad and the people with him did not

want to free the two Americans for nothing. They were pressed by the Iranians and, in the end, had to give in," a Shiite Muslim source told yesterday.

"But Imad didn't like it and left his headquarters in Tehran to show his discontent," he said.

"The (kidnappers) ... want Iran to treat them as partners, not as tools," the source said.

He said tension between Moughneyeh and the Iranians started early this year when he learned of an Iranian decision to win freedom for the hostages to improve Iran's image in the West and receive much-needed economic aid.

Six Americans are among the Western captives in Lebanon. The others are three Britons, two West Germans, two Swiss, an Irishman and an Italian.

Iran denies it controls hostage-takers in Lebanon.

Moughneyeh insists that Western hostages

should be released only after a deal is struck to ensure freedom for Lebanese and Palestinians in Israeli jails, he said.

Moughneyeh, in his early 30s, lived in a Tehran hotel for three years. Using an Iranian passport, he regularly visited Lebanon to check on the hostages and their guards.

His men — members of Hezbollah — maintain bases in Beirut's southern suburbs, the eastern Bekaa Valley and the southern port city of Sidon.

The sources said that although the Iranian administration has decided to "close the hostage file," there were some "centres of influence" inside Tehran that sympathised with the captors.

While Iranian pragmatists, including President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, want to take advantage of the hostage card to improve Iran's ties with the West, some hardliners want to exact a high price from the West.

Weapons delivery to PLO ignored

MUKHTARA, Lebanon, June 6. (UPI): Druze Muslim leader and militia leader Walid Jumblat has charged that Israel is overlooking large deliveries of arms to the Palestinians in southern Lebanon and the Christian Lebanese Forces militia of Samir Geagea.

"Massive shipments of weapons and ammunitions are being delivered to Samir Geagea and the Palestinians in south Lebanon," Jumblat said in an interview with United Press International at his compound in Mukhtara in the Shouf Mountains, 5 miles (24 km) southeast of Beirut.

Jumblat said a ship called the "Atlantic," loaded with arms, has repeatedly sailed from Iraq and unloaded its cargo in the southern port city of Sidon south of Beirut and in harbour controlled by Geagea's militia north of Beirut.

Israeli gunboats that patrol Lebanese territorial waters have refrained from stopping the arms shipments, Jumblat said.

"They came to dislodge weapons by sea, and who controls the sea?" The 43-year-old Druze leader asked. "They (the Israelis) are helping everybody in Lebanon to fight each other, to destroy each other."

Asked if he is ready to dissolve his militia to strengthen the authority of pro-Syrian Christian Maronite President Elias Hrawi, Jumblat replied: "How can I dissolve my militia at a time militias everywhere are bringing reinforcements and at a time (Hrawi) government to which I belong, collapses."

Jumblat, who is Lebanon's minister of public works and tourism, has launched a "hometown campaign" against Hrawi's government, accusing other ministers of corruption and mismanagement.

"Who would protect me and who would give me guarantees if I dismantled the militia?" Jumblat asked. He stressed that he would not disband his force while his Christian foe is becoming better armed and while the Palestinian factions in south Lebanon are acquiring more strength.

Two Israeli abductions to the hospital side of the Taurus mountain range in Lebanon, Jumblat said. And if there is a plan to throw them out of the Israeli occupied territories to Lebanon and Jordan ... what can we do?"

Jumblat said he doesn't know how many Palestinian fighters, forced to evacuate Beirut after the 1982 Israeli invasion, have returned to Lebanon.

Tension is building between Jumblat's 7,000-strong Progressive Socialist Party and followers of PLO chairman Yasser Arafat along the southern edges of the Druze-controlled Shouf Mountains.

Recent reports indicate the Druze leader reinforced his militia in the region to head off what he said was PLO expansionist designs against his area.

A high-ranking PLO commander, Lt Col Kamal Medhat, said last week that Druze reinforcement in the district of Iqlim Al Kharroub included the massing of tanks, multi-barrel rocket launchers and heavy machine-guns.

Jumblat said an Arab-Israeli war is inevitable following the immigration of Soviet Jews to the occupied territories.

"I simply see war coming, Israel will find few pretences in south Lebanon or against (Iraqi President) Saddam Hussein to launch a military operation," he said.

Rival Shi'ite gunmen were streaming into south Lebanon in apparent preparation for a major battle, security sources said yesterday.

They said Syrian-backed Amal and pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party of God) militias reinforced positions in the Iqlim Al Tufah area, 40 km (25 miles) south of Beirut. (Reuter)

Rival Christian forces loyal to Gen. Michel Aoun and militia chieftain Samir Geagea skirmished for three hours in east Beirut yesterday despite a Vatican-brokered ceasefire in their inconclusive power struggle.

Police said the clash with mortars and machine-guns wounded a woman, passer-by and a 14-year-old girl student in the Aoun-held district of Dekwaneh. (AP)

Violent explosions destroyed buildings of the Phalangist Party in Ein Al Kharroub village in the Christian Kfarsan area, while intermittent fighting continued in eastern Beirut. (Kuna)

Lebanon has called on the Unifil to reinvestigate information on diverting waters from south Lebanon by Israel, Lebanese diplomatic sources said in Beirut yesterday.

The source told Kuna that the request was officially submitted through Lebanon's mission to the United Nations. (Kuna)



An Israeli policeman holds a Palestinian man around the neck as another policeman twists his arm from behind, July 6. (Reuter wirephoto)

Crackdown on Kosovo

Serbia suspends Parliament, government

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia, July 6. (Reuter): Yugoslavia's biggest republic, Serbia, cracked down on opposition and the media in Kosovo today, a day after suspending the predominantly ethnic Albanian province's Parliament and government.

Armed police armed with semi-automatic rifles stood guard outside the buildings of the Albanian-language television, radio and newspaper in simmering heat in the Kosovo capital Pristina.

Ethnic Albanian opposition leaders appealed for calm in an effort to avoid a repeat of riots against Serbian rule in which at least 50 people,

mostly Albanians, have been killed over the past 18 months.

Serbia suspended Kosovo's Parliament and government yesterday three days after rebel Albanian deputies in the regional Parliament declared independence from Serbia, of which Kosovo is a part.

Jusuf Buxhovi, secretary of the Democratic Alliance of Kosovo, the leading local Albanian opposition group, said today several leaders of the alliance, including its president, Ibrahim Rugova, were interrogated by police last night. They were later released.

Buxhovi held a news conference in front of the Kosovo Writers'

Union from which his organisation has been evicted by police. Police stood by but did not interfere.

The Solidarity premier warned against conflict and unrest that could threaten Polish democracy.

"Today as I stand before you I must state that I see threats to our peaceful Polish road of democratic change," he said. "A brutal struggle is emerging in which opponents are treated like enemies to be destroyed."

Attack

Mazowiecki's government was harshly attacked by Walesa which split Solidarity in which the old ruling party in the cabinet.

Mazowiecki said he would name his new communications minister later.

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"Today as I stand before you I must state that I see threats to our peaceful Polish road of democratic change," he said. "A brutal struggle is emerging in which opponents are treated like enemies to be destroyed."

Risks

The switch, which Mazowiecki acknowledged involved certain risks, aims at shaking the economy out of a deep recession which has cut industrial production by 30 per cent.

Mazowiecki said the government would soon present a bill to liberalise conditions for foreign investors, including a sit-in protest today under the watchful eyes of police.

Biblical waters dip

The Sea of Galilee, where Christians believe Jesus walked on the water, has dipped to the lowest level ever recorded, an Israeli water official said on Friday.

"For about 100 years we have known the level of the Sea of Galilee and there was never a year as low as 1990," said Zvi Ortenberg, chairman of the Sea of Galilee Authority.

At the end of the rainy season in April, the lake stood at a record low of 211.34 metres (700 feet) below sea level.

The lake provides a third of Israel's fresh water and its level was bound to fall further in the next few months, Ortenberg said. The rainy season begins in October.

The Christian gospels tell of Jesus walking on the sea to comfort and save disciples aboard a foundering ship in a storm. The Sea of Galilee is also known as Lake Tiberias or Kinneret.

Israel is facing its worst water crisis ever after two dry winters, with supplies to some areas cut by 25 per cent.

Unicef appeal for Iran quake

The United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) appealed on Friday for six million dollars to give Iran emergency relief after last month's earthquake.

It sought \$5.5 million to buy tents, water pumps, medicine, health kits, water purification tablets and other supplies to transport the aid.

The impact of the earthquake on children and mothers has been disastrous, the organisation said in a statement appealing for the money.

The UN Disaster Relief Organisation estimated this week that 150 million dollars of assistance had been sent to Iran since the June 21 disaster, in which tens of thousands of people were killed.

UN report controversy

Iranian resistance leaders on Thursday asked the United Nations to withdraw a moderately critical human rights report on Iran, saying its mildness had encouraged Tehran to assassinate opposition leader Kazem Radjavi in Switzerland last April.

Dr Saleh Radjavi and Michelle Radjavi, brother and widow of the slain leader, made their complaints to Assistant UN Secretary-General James Jonah.

Former defense minister Yitzhak Rabin holds his hands up while speaking to the foreign press June 4.

Rabin who is waging for the leadership of the dovish Labour Party spoke of the need for new elections in Israel to prevent the rise of extremism in the Arab world. Rabin also spoke on the stalled peace process. (Reuter wirephoto)

Their meeting followed months of criticism of February UN report which did not include any proof of opposition accusations that Iran was executing political dissidents.

The two said they demanded the United Nations not send the author of the report, Salvadorean lawyer Reynaldo Galindo Pohl, back to Iran to replace him with another representative who would be accompanied by a resistance leader.

Iran has invited Galindo Pohl for a second visit to follow up his report.

Iran reconstruction

Tehran announced Thursday that the Iranian government had earmarked \$20 billion for the reconstruction of north-western areas of the country that were devastated in a violent earthquake on June 21.

The source told Kuna that the request was officially submitted through Lebanon's mission to the United Nations. (Kuna)

Israel adopts 'low profile' tactics in remote Gaza town

RAFAH, Gaza Strip, July 6. (Reuters): Israeli troops have taken a new low profile in the occupied Gaza Strip town of Rafah, leaving masked Arab activists to roam unhindered in streets decked with banned Palestinian flags.

Arab and military sources say for the past two months troops have stayed out of sight in Rafah to reduce deaths in the anti-Israeli town and adjoining refugee camp, home to some 140,000 Palestinians.

June marked the first month of the 31-

month-old Palestinian uprising that the army had killed no Palestinians in Gaza, the Israeli human rights group B'tselem said on Thursday.

Throughout Rafah, the Palestinian colours dominate the streets and the olive green of Israeli uniforms is seldom seen.

Merchants said they had not seen troops in the centre of town for weeks.

In what Palestinians said was unprecedented behaviour, scores of masked youths from

various political groups often walk the streets during daylight hours, banding out leaflets and spray-painting nationalist graffiti.

An experienced Gaza journalist said he could hardly believe what was happening. "I asked myself: 'What the hell is this, are we in occupied territory?' It was as if they were preparing the town for independence."

Military sources said that in recent months troops had stopped ordering Rafah residents to remove flags and white-wash graffiti.

"These are little things. The main issue is

that troops do not go into Rafah unless there is something special. Rafah is isolated from soldiers, some would say it is liberated," a military source said.

Military sources said the military low profile was a new tactic aimed at avoiding clashes. It has not been adopted in other parts of the strip.

At the southern tip of the 45 km long (28-mile) strip and straddling the Egyptian border, Rafah is the most remote and least accessible area in Gaza.

During the intifada (uprising), Rafah had witnessed some of the fiercest clashes between Palestinians and Israeli forces. Troops have sometimes wounded more than 100 Palestinians in Rafah in a single day.

Defence Minister Moshe Arens said during a visit to the Gaza Strip on Thursday he would cut troops in the occupied areas if uprising violence eased.

"If we see that as the army presence is reduced, the level of violence reduces as well.

then we will continue with the policy," said Arens, named defence minister last month in the most right-wing cabinet in Israel's history.

Major General Matan Vilnai, army commander for the southern region that includes Gaza, has indicated that troops have been instructed to curb shooting.

Vilnai told the army journal: "As a result of the change in policy ... the population understands that they are no longer facing an army that opens fire and kills with no apparent reason."

PLO reviewing uprising strategy

May authorise use of new weapons: Zaki

TUNIS, July 6. (Agencies): The PLO, facing the most rightwing government in Israel's history, is reviewing the strategy of the Palestinian uprising and may authorise new weapons, a top PLO official said.

"I think a government containing (Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir, (Housing Minister Ariel) Sharon and (Minister of Agriculture Rafael) Eitan ... must be confronted with every instrument — stones, fire, sharp instruments — and things previously banned must be used," said

sheep."

He said the four groups in the

unified leadership — Fatah, the Palestinian Communist Party and the Popular and Democratic Fronts for the Liberation of Palestine — were thinking of opening up the leadership to other forces.

"Leaders inside and outside are unanimous that at every level we have to involve independent who have not previously taken part effectively. This would also apply to the Muslim fundamentalist movement," Hamid said.

Zaki told Reuters: "At the moment we don't have any. But we have to use everything we have. We are not prepared to be slaughtered like

Abbas Zaki in an interview published yesterday.

Zaki, secretary of the PLO's uprising (intifada) committee and a senior member of Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatah movement, was asked if this included firearms, banned by the PLO and the unified command of the 30-month-old intifada.

Zaki told Reuters: "At the moment we don't have any. But we have to use everything we have. We are not prepared to be slaughtered like

Soviet Jews migration via Finland

PLO seeks Arab sanctions

HELSINKI, Finland, July 6. (AP): The PLO said Thursday it expects Arab nations to impose sanctions against Finland and other countries allowing the transfer of Soviet Jews to Israel.

"I am very optimistic that Arab government ministers will adopt our proposal later this month," said Palestine Liberation Organization representative Zuhdi Al-Wazir.

Arab League Foreign Ministers meet in Tunis,

Tunisia, July 16 to discuss the Middle East situation.

Al Wazir said in a telephone interview that the PLO seeks both political and economic sanctions, including "boycotting of airlines of the countries involved."

"At the moment we are continuing our talks with Moscow and have asked that they completely stop the emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union," he said.

The operation would make Finland the fourth major route from Soviet Jewish emigration, along with Hungary, Romania and Poland.

Israel said last week it would not settle Soviet Jews in the occupied West Bank or Gaza Strip, where millions of Palestinians live.

Finland will allow El Al, the Israeli airline, to make flights each week carrying some 200 emigrants. The flights will leave from Lappeenranta airport, about 20 kilometres (12 miles) from the Soviet border.

The emigrants, mainly from around Leningrad, will be shuttled to Lappeenranta in Finnish houses.

Passio said security risks were involved. However, he said the government had not received threats from terrorists.

Finnish soldiers serving in the United Nations peacekeeping force in South Lebanon have been alerted to possible attacks by extremist groups, officials said.

Police in Lappeenranta said they have increased security measures.

Al Wazir said the "government's decision to allow Soviet Jews to transit Finland was not an internal affair."

The PLO regrets this decision, which is part of the continuous wave of immigration of Jews into Israel. The immigration itself is a military act against the Palestinians," he said.

"We are warning the international community of the effects of this immigration," Al Wazir said.

He said the PLO has not threatened the Finnish government with violence but added that the organisation could not waver for other groups.

"We condemn violence ... but ... I cannot say that nothing will happen," he said.

Some 10,000 Jews were currently living in the Leningrad area close to Finland, but the number wishing to leave Soviet Union through Finland was not immediately known.

Kuva adds: The Soviet Foreign Ministry Thursday reiterated the Soviet rejection of opening a direct air route between Moscow and Tel Aviv to carry Soviet Jewish emigrants to Israel.

Cohen said one is planned near the Arab village of Shuafat with a



A homeless Israeli mother and her two children sit outside their tent July 5 during a protest against the lack of affordable housing in Israel. (Reuter wirephoto)

Jerusalem plans 40,000 apartments

Shortage of houses

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 6. (AP):

The Jerusalem municipality

today disclosed plans to

accelerate housing construction

in the city by building some

40,000 new apartments in its

Jewish areas and the annexed Arab

sector.

The Jerusalem-based Kol-

Hair newspaper said the plan

appears to enjoy the backing of

hardline Housing Minister Ariel

Sharon, who is seeking to ease a

housing crunch caused by the

wave of Soviet Jewish

immigrants.

Shimshayahu Coheo, a housing

ministry official responsible for

Jerusalem construction, said the

municipal plan called for two

new Jewish neighbourhoods in

the Arab East Jerusalem.

Cohen said one is planned near

the Arab village of Shuafat with a

population near 10,000 and the other near the Arab neighbourhood of Zur Bahar, home to 6,500 people.

But Cohen said the city's plans were still far from approval.

"We, of course, praise all the plans but we need to check out how feasible they are. Some still are only theory, if they are feasible, we will help," he said.

"We are already building 4,800 units in Naava Yaakov, Talpiot, Gilo, Ramot and Pisgat Zeev, Malcha and Masuwa Hill. Of them, 2,000 are inside the green line, in Malcha and Masuwa Hill. We have plans for 4,500 more next year," Cohen added.

The so-called green line separates between Israel and the lands it captured in 1967, including East Jerusalem.

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The so-called

Bahraini pilgrims escape death

BAHRAIN, July 6. (Reuters): Injured Bahrainis returning from the Muslim Hajj described today how their pilgrimage turned into a nightmare as they watched wives and friends trampled to death in a tunnel stampede near Makkah.

Pilgrims Mustapha Al Sayed and Abdul Hussein Jassim Ahmed said they were trapped in the Al Mouassim tunnel leading to the holy sites in Saudi Arabia for several hours on Monday as people climbed over each other in a frantic bid to escape.

"I saw people being trampled to death. I was up to my chest in bodies," Ahmed, 29, told reporters from a stretcher in hospital.

"You couldn't stand, you couldn't walk, you couldn't jump. You could only fall down gradually until people killed you," Sayed, 34, who works for Grindlays' Bank in Bahrain said.

Sayed said he did not know whether his wife Fatima, who was with him in the tunnel, was dead or alive.

"My wife was beneath me and I was trying to help her but in the end she was unconscious with blood streaming from her nose. I don't want to think about her fate," he said.

"People were pushing in all directions but if you were lucky and if no-one stood on your head, you could breathe."

"I thought we were finished. I told my wife this is the last day for you and me. We should say our prayers," said Sayed, who has leg injuries and breathing problems.

Sayed and Ahmed — among six injured Bahrainis flown home today — said the congestion was aggravated by a barricade at the exit of the 600-metre long tunnel. "We were on our way to the stones — we were close to the finish — but when we got to the exit it was blocked with a fence," Ahmed said.

"The people stopped. They could not go forward. They could not go back because there were people coming behind them."

"It was so hot — you could not breathe. People wanted to go out immediately and those who could jumped on the heads of others to escape," Ahmed said.

Sayed said police at the barricade apparently wanted the pilgrims to return the way they had come but this was impossible.

He said he was rescued after being trapped for three-and-a-half hours by two Bahrainis who pulled him to safety back through the tunnel to a waiting ambulance.

Bahraini health authorities said today five Bahrainis, two men and three women, had died in the tragedy but the toll could rise to 25 as others were still missing.

GCC to lessen dependence on foreigners

MANAMA, July 6. (Opeena): The Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) intends to increase private sector participation and to diversify its domestic services by reducing its dependence on foreign countries in the 1990s, it has been disclosed here.

According to a bulletin issued by the Bahrain-based Gulf International Bank, progress in the economic conditions of the Gulf states at the beginning of this decade gave new impetus to the services sector, enabling it to more work opportunities for local manpower in the future.

It notes that the services sector represents 46.8 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP) of the GCC's six member countries.

The bulletin envisions signs of optimism for the Gulf region's exportable commodities as the East European countries open their markets to the world.

It also foresees more international demand for the region's oil in the current decade.

The GCC comprises Opec member countries Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, in addition to Oman and Bahrain.



Kuwaiti pilgrims greeting their children upon arrival.

Co-operation of Saudi authorities praised

Kuwaiti pilgrims recount tale of disaster

KUWAIT International Airport witnessed an influx of Kuwaiti and Saudi flights, Thursday. These flights brought in hajjis returning to the country from the holy lands after performing hajj.

A local daily interviewed a number of hajjis to obtain an overview of the Mo'essem Tunnel tragedy which caused the death of 1,426 hajjis and resulted in the injury to several others with substantial material losses.

Hajji Mihana Al Sultan said that the Mo'essem Tunnel tragedy was mainly caused by the large number of hajjis within the tunnel. However, he ruled out any possibility that the tragedy was a deliberate act and praised the level of services presented by the Saudi authorities inside Makkah.

Act of God

Hajji Zainab Mustafa stated that the Mo'essem accident was an act of God, adding that the Saudi authorities had provided hajjis, injured in the accident, with every possible assistance. She said that rumours that the accident was a terrorist act and the fire incident which occurred the previous night was a deliberate act, were baseless and were propagated by people.

Hajji Khaled Khaleel Al Awadi said that the accident was caused through a

chain of unfortunate incidents, primarily panic inside the tunnel which led to several people being trampled in the stampede of the entry and exits of the tunnel. Specifically, he said that the breakdown in the ventilation system, led to soaring temperatures and lack of fresh air led to panic among the hajjis.

Hajji Ali Shamlan indicated that he has no concrete evidence to pinpoint the cause of the tragedy, but indicated that it was due to a combination of factors such as overcrowding, a drop in the ventilation system, excessive heat and massive confusion and frenzy to make for the exits collectively.

Hajji Fahdel Sultan stated that the Mo'essem Tunnel was built originally for pedestrians and said that most of the victims were of Asian nationality. After the electrical failure, it was impossible to see inside or to breathe, causing hysteria.

Pedestrians

He added that the main cause of the accident was due to the fact that many hajjis did not comply with safety directives issued by the Saudi authorities.

Meanwhile, a number of Kuwaiti hajjis who were standing in close proximity to the location of the Mo'essem Tunnel at the time of the tragedy reported that they saw

stark fear leading to confusion and terror on the faces of hajjis during the accident.

A number of hajjis returning back from the holy lands at around 4:00 am at Kuwait International Airport stated that they saw hajji pedestrians on the bridge binding each other with ibrah costumes in a bid to save them from falling and being crushed under the feet of the surging crowd.

Other hajjis who were received by relatives at the airport stressed that the tragedy was an act of God adding that due to the heavy traffic of hajjis inside and outside the tunnel, a number of individuals fell down from the pedestrian bridge above the tunnel which caused confusion and stampede among hajjis.

An old hajji pointed out that among the victims of the tragedy there were a total of nine Kuwaitis who were injured — all of whom were promptly transferred to the headquarters of the Kuwaiti medical delegation, where their injuries were treated. All are reported to be in good condition.

Hajji Um Saad pointed out that most Kuwaiti hajj caravans were not near the Mo'essem Tunnel at the time of the accident, and so many Kuwaiti hajjis had no idea about the incident. She added that she got to know of the accident after the Saudi interior minister made the events known.

Meanwhile, Ibrahim Al Mansour, Kuwaiti ambassador in Saudi Arabia said that the Kuwaiti hajj caravans began leaving the kingdom after performing their hajj.

In a telephone interview with a local daily, he added that all KUWAITI hajjis were reported in good health. However, he added that one Kuwaiti hajji identified as Mohammed Mesfer Al Ajmi is still to be accounted for.

He added that special contacts were made with concerned Saudi authorities and with other Islamic delegations and caravans in the kingdom to ascertain his whereabouts and condition. He indicated that authorities have not yet received any information in this respect and expressed hope that the matter will become more clear within the coming few hours.

The ambassador praised the co-operation of Saudi authorities with the Kuwaiti medical delegation and other delegations. He stated that such co-operation have facilitated many tasks towards determining the whereabouts of hajjis after the tragedy.

Ibrahim added that many casualties, injuries and cases of suffocation were reported and treated at various Islamic medical delegations. Saudi authorities had also provided maximum medical services to all hajjis after the accident.

(Continued from Page 1)

Haj

pilgrims were completing the annual ritual of the Hajj near Islam's holiest shrines. Many of the victims had no identification papers, according to Saudi officials.

More than 1,000 pilgrims from Indonesia and Turkey were among the 1,426 crushed to death, according to reports reaching their homelands.

Many of the 447 Turkish victims have been buried nameless, their nationality evident from the small flags pinned to their collars. Turkey's ambassador in Saudi Arabia told Istanbul television yesterday.

Indonesia has also asked Saudi Arabia to bury its 562 dead.

Figures so far showed that at least two-thirds of the dead came from non-Arab countries, which could indicate that language problems contributed to the tragedy.

Indonesia's Co-ordinating Minister for Social Welfare Suparno Rustama told reporters that at least 562 Indonesians were among the dead. Indonesia declared Friday a day of mourning.

Turkish diplomats in Makkah said the Turkish dead numbered at least 447 and only 163 of them were identified.

Pictures were taken of some of the Turkish victims before burial, but not all. "We may never be able to identify many of them," said ambassador Yasir Yakis.

Many pilgrims move through the Hajj rituals in large national groups, which would explain why most victims came from a few countries.

A health official in Bahrain said three Bahraini men and two women were known to have died but 25 other Bahraini pilgrims were missing.

Malaysia said today 132 Malaysian pilgrims were killed in the tunnel stampede.

An Australian, whose trip was arranged by Malaysia, was also killed, the official Bernama news agency said.

In the Bangladesh capital, Dhaka, the official BSS news

How it happened



Worried Indonesians scan list of victims of Saudi Arabia's tunnel disaster. (Reuters wirephoto)

had their pell-mell, heading for the tunnel entrance.

The railing on the bridge collapsed under the pressure of the human tide. Seven pilgrims tumbled eight metres (26 feet) off the bridge into the crowd of people coming outside the tunnel.

The bodies crashing into the throng touched off panic. Only those at the entrance of the tunnel knew what had happened.

Behind them, pilgrims continued to move into the tunnel. Soon, the tunnel which has a capacity of 1,000 people was jammed with what authorities had estimated at 50,000 pushing, shoving pilgrims.

Pilgrims heading for Gamarat Aqabah were unaware of what had happened and kept thrusting forward.

Soon after the incident at the mouth of the tunnel, there was an unexplained power outage. The lights went out and

once Saudi authorities finished identifying those killed.

About 10,000 faithful from Bangladesh, the world's third largest Muslim country, made the pilgrimage this year.

Egyptian officials reversed earlier statements and said three

Egyptians were found among the dead.

Health Minister Mohammed Raghib Dowcidar, who had said there were no Egyptian casualties, said that on close examination of the dead and of documents in Saudi Arabia,

three Egyptians were found to have been killed.

Meanwhile, pilgrims packed Jeddah airport to leave Saudi Arabia following the tunnel disaster.

The Cairo newspaper Al Messa quoted returning Egyptians as saying pilgrims packed Jeddah airport to return home.

El Siyyad Hassan, an engineer, said the pilgrims were scared by the tunnel incident and "we decided to return home ahead of schedule because our families were worried about us and we could not get in touch with them."

Most of the victims are likely to be buried at the holy sites, diplomatic sources in Saudi Arabia said yesterday.

The sources, who spoke on condition they not be named, said families and friends who lost people in the disaster were expected to prefer the Makkah burials for religious reasons.

The victims would continue to be called "martyrs," as King Fahd has described them, because they died at the holy sites.

In accordance with the strict Wahhabi school of the Sunni sect of Islam to which Saudi Arabia adheres, the bodies would be buried with no markings.

The sources said that the bodies would be lined up side by side in a mass area or grave in the region that the Saudi Arabian authorities would designate.

Three days after the tragedy, the sources believed almost all the bodies were still lying in morgues.

Some had been clearly identified but the majority were without documents because it is sinful for pilgrims to wear worldly items that could have helped identify them.

An official identification process began today with the help of officials who accompany each pilgrimage contingent from its country, or diplomatic missions in case of pilgrims or workers from the large expatriate community within the kingdom, according to the sources.

Detainees who suspected the bonafides of the boat, investigated and after locating the whiskey arrested the two defendants who claimed that they were unaware of the contents and were only guarding the boat on the instructions of the owner.

The accused was subsequently arrested and admitted to the smuggling charges.

Action Line

I AM extremely concerned about my telephone bill. I think I have been overcharged and would like to have it checked. Could you tell me how to go about the matter?

L.A.

YOU must approach the nearest telephone exchange. For example, if you live in Salma, you approach the Salma Telephone Exchange and contact the officers there. Explain your predicament, and show them the previous bills which have been paid for you. It takes about a month to scrutinise the overcharge invoice. After scrutiny, the Ministry of Communications informs the subscriber of the error, if any, and makes amends accordingly.

I AM new in Kuwait. Having just arrived in the country, I don't know where to buy many things, like plants etc. Although I would like to buy fresh plants, I believe it would be a good idea to purchase artificial plants. Could you tell me where I can get the best quality at reasonable prices?

D.H.

OFTEN, some artificial plants look real. A large variety are sold at the co-operatives and smaller shops in Salma, near the Fire Brigade. Prices differ, so does quality. Prices range from 25 fils to KD36 or more depending on the plant, its size etc. A wide selection of artificial plants are available from the Awqaf Complex, Sharq, at reasonable prices.

ARE emergency services available at Kuwaiti hospitals? I would like also like to know if I can go to a hospital for treatment of minor ailments?

K. Shama

EMERGENCY services are available at all the major hospitals in and around Kuwait. A patient reports to the casualty department in case of an accidental injury. Patients who suspect a heart attack can also go to the casualty department of hospitals.

Minor ailments like cough, colds, fever or back pain etc. can be done at the clinics. Each area has a clinic which offers treatment to men, women and children. If the doctors in the clinic feel that a patient requires specialist treatment, they will refer the patient to a hospital.

COULD you give me the name and address of a "good" mechanic? I seem to have car trouble almost all the time and I feel that I cannot cope with it any longer. I have tried many mechanics but nothing seems to work.

T.H.

THE best way to maintain your car is to take it to the manufacturer's agency workshop. Although you are guaranteed good service, you pay through your nose repairs done at such workshops.

There are several garages in the Shuaikh area; in Sharq, Jleeb Al Shiyukh and Fahaaheel areas. It's impossible to give the name of "a good mechanic." You'll have to find one by trial and error.

I OWN a cat. I've looked everywhere but can't find a veterinarian to take care of my pet. I am panicking. Please advise.

S.N.

PUBLIC vet clinics exist in Hawalli, near Al Andalus Cinema; in Farwaniya, near the co-operative society; and in Shuaikh, on the Ghazal Street. These clinics provide care for cats, dogs, birds, monkeys and sheep. However, these clinics do not provide specialist treatment like cataract operations, teeth scaling etc.

The government recently approved the opening of private veterinarian clinics. These are expected to be set up by the end of 1991.

WHICH is the best place to buy gold?

K.J.

DO you want to invest in gold or buy gold ornaments? If you want to buy gold ornaments, Kuwait has one of the most extensive selection of ornaments which are manufactured in Bahrain, Italy, India and in Kuwait. Designer jewellery from Italy, which is machine-made, comes in 18 K gold, and comes in intricate shapes. This is available in gold shops located in Mubarakiya, and Salma gold souks.

Indian hand-made jewellery is also available, and is much in demand. This can be found in several shops located in the Souk Al Watya, behind the Sheraton Hotel, and in Souk Al Kabir.

Orders can also be placed. Generally, it takes between two weeks and one month to get delivery.

If you have a problem drop in a line in Action Line, Arab Times, P.O. Box 2270, 13023 Safat, Kuwait or fax your questions to us on Tel: 4847495.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Decomposed body

Civil ID should be all purpose: Bunashi

Fine for discrepancy in address

A DIRECTOR of the Public Authority for Civil Information (Paci) at the Ministry Complex, Anwar Bunashi, was quoted as saying that the civil identity card should be deemed an all-purpose card.

In an interview with a local daily, the official said that the mail service had proved effective for civil identity card transactions and had curtailed the number of visitors to the offices of the authority by 80 percent.

Meanwhile, the official commented that Paci's office at the ministries complex had been set up to facilitate the large number of people which caused crowds in other offices of the authority. He clarified that the office at the ministries complex serves about 9000 employees. He further elucidated that the offices had received since its establishment about 5296 transactions with about 44 transactions daily. He clarified that this figure was more than expected, since there are

only three employees and each of them received about 12 transactions daily. He pointed out that if another three employees were recruited, the office would be in a position to receive about 50 transactions daily.

Warning

Meanwhile, the official said that the office had prepared about 430 civil identity cards to be produced for the first time and had carried about 3,500 transactions concerning change of address and had

undertaken the distribution of about 2,100 cards.

The official drew the attention of expatriates to the fact that they have to communicate with the authority one month after obtaining the residence. Some people are under the impression that it is two months. Applicants will be subject to the stipulated fine if they delay their applications, Bunashi said.

He added that his office is ready to receive transactions to be submitted for

the first time, the transactions pertaining to the address change, family transactions followed by residence renewal. He warned that any discrepancy in address details will subject the violator to a fine.

With regard to the pictures to be used on the civil identity card, the official said a picture for people over 11 years old is compulsory, but optional for children between 6-10 years. Children under six years old will be exempted from the picture.

New sea link

Kuwait, Iran to boost ties

KUWAIT, July 6. (Opecna): Iran and Kuwait reopened their sea link Tuesday after a break of nine years with the arrival in the Kuwaiti port of Shuwaikh of the Iranian passenger ship "Iran Hormoz 24" from the port city of Bushir.

Ahmad Makhmali, managing director of the Iranian Valfajr-8 Shipping Company, who was on board the vessel, stressed: "The resumption of the sea link between Iranian and Kuwaiti ports is in line with the consolidation of political and economic ties between the two countries."

All sea links between Iran and Kuwait came to a halt because of the outbreak of the Gulf war in 1980.

Makhmali said that the resumption of the Kuwait-Bushehr sea line, the price of passenger tickets as well as transportation costs of goods from Iran, would be considerably reduced.

Ahmad Dashi, director-general of the joint Iran-Kuwait Shipping Company, said the resumption of the Kuwait-Bushehr sea line "will open a new chapter in sea links between the two countries."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Amiri cables

KUWAIT, July 6. (Kuna): HH the Amir has sent a cable of congratulations to the president of the Comoro Islands on the occasion of his country's national day.

HH also sent a cable of congratulations to Algerian President Chadli Ben Jidid on the occasion of his country's independence anniversary.

HH sent similar congratulatory cables to presidents of Venezuela, Rwanda and Cape Verde on the occasion of their countries national day.

Premier receives

LONDON, July 6. (Kuna): HH Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah received at his residence here last night British State Minister for Foreign Affairs William Waldegrave who conveyed to His Highness a message from UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Sheikh Saad later last night received Interior Minister David Mellor. Both meetings were attended by Kuwaiti ambassador to London Ghazi Al Rayes.

Zoo visits

OVER 2,000 people visited Omaniya Zoo on the first day of Eid Al Adha. However, the number visiting the zoo during the first day of Eid Al Fitr was 10,000 people.

An official at the zoo said that many new animals from African countries has been brought to the zoo recently and said that about 7,000 people visited the zoo during the holidays.

Culture programmes

MINISTRY of Social Affairs and Labour in co-operation with Kuwait Trade Federation has carried out about 13 labour culture programmes which were attended by 416 students, a local daily quoted an official source at the ministry as saying.

It added that industrial relations and union organisations department at the ministry was honoured that the annual aid which had been allocated for trade federations during the fiscal year 1988/1989 had amounted to KD247,000.

Meanwhile, sources said that each union organisation in the country received an Amiri grant of KD5,000 which had been allocated for the performance of Haj by members of the organisations.

Paaet registrations

THE dean of students and trainees affairs at Kuwait's Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (Paaet) Hisham Al Mutawa was quoted as saying that registrations for the first term of next academic year will begin on Sept 25th.

He added that students who would like to join any of the authority's colleges should communicate with the registration office from 4:00pm to 8:00pm.

He added that the registration door will be open for Kuwaitis and expatriate students but only 15 per cent of the admitted students will be of the nationalities.

Allergy list

OF all the people in Kuwait at least 12 per cent suffer allergies according to the allergy consultant Dr Khudhaier Al Kazmi.

He told a seminar held recently that the allergy centre has received about 60,000 cases in 1989. He added that the previous year (1988) had witnessed mostly the same. He clarified that stress alone worsened cases of asthma and those suffering from other kinds of allergies.

He added that bad relations between parents negatively affects their children and may cause psychosomatic allergies.

Manama, Beijing to sign trade agreement

BEIJING, July 6. (Kuna): Bahraini Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa arrived here yesterday on an official visit to China, for the first time since diplomatic relations were established between the two countries in April 1989.

In a statement on arrival, Sheikh Mohammed said that his visit here has come "to deepen and develop relations between Bahrain and China."

He expressed hope that the visit would result in "developing and strengthening relations and opening of horizons of co-operation in economic and other sectors."

He added in his statement carried by the New China News Agency (Xinhua) that an economic agreement between the two countries would be concluded during his visit and voiced hope that this would represent a turning of a new page in economic co-operation between Beijing and Manama.

Sheikh Mohammed affirmed that direct talks between Iraq and Iran will mark a positive step toward peace in the Gulf region.

Following talks with his Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen, Sheikh Mohammed said that China, one of the Security Council permanent members, had made many contributions toward establishing peace between Iraq and Iran.

On the Middle East, the Bahraini foreign minister said that the Jewish influx to occupied Palestine and the half of the US-PLO dialogue form obstacles before a solution to the Mideast crisis.

He also welcomed detente in east-west relations, hoping that this improvement in ties between the great powers would help end tension in many of the world's hotbeds.

For his part, Qichen hoped that the ceasefire between Tehran and Baghdad would turn into lasting peace.

He accused the Israeli government of escalating tension in the middle East by adopting negative policies.

The Chinese foreign minister urged developing nations to strengthen co-operation among them to confront the monopoly of the developed countries over the world's economy and politics.

Arabs urged to unify

KUWAIT, July 6. (Kuna): A local daily yesterday urged the Arabs to forge unity and solidarity to confront conspiracies being plotted against them.

The daily cited examples of reunification of the two Germanys and similar efforts in the Far East between the two Koreas while the Arabs were still far from such unity.

It said the Arabs, despite dangers from various areas, could not yet agree on a historic step such as the Yemenis took.

The paper underlined that as long as the Arab remained disintegrated, they will not receive any world attention.

Meanwhile Director of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Vladimir Polyakov, has stressed that the Middle East region still enjoys the attention of the Soviet Union.

In an interview with Kuwait Television broadcast here yesterday Polyakov said that the Soviet Union is working to strengthen its relations with the Arab world, indicating that his country is seeking a settlement to the Arab-Israel conflict.

He reiterated his country's support to the right of self determination to the Palestinian people noting that an international peace conference on the Middle East is the best way to resolve the Middle East problem.

On the emigration of Soviet Jews and their rehabilitation in the occupied territories, Polyakov said the Soviet Union rejects the settlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied territories noting that Moscow's stand from this issue is firm.

From the courts

Two get 28 months RI, deportation for forgery

THE Criminal Court sentenced a man and his cousin to 28 months rigorous imprisonment and a bail of KD100 each on the charge of forgery. The court also ordered their deportation after the end of their jail sentence.

The court heard that the two defendants were not allowed to leave their country because they were on call for military service. The first took the passport of another cousin who was exempted from service and put his photo instead of the cousin's photo. He left his country and entered Kuwait with his forged passport. He also worked in a company for a short period before being exposed. The other defendant forged his cousin's name in his passport and entered Kuwait to work with his cousin. The CID men received a report against the two defendants who inspected their residence and found letters from their relatives carrying their real names. Two witnesses living with defendants also revealed the real names of defendants. The defendants admitted to the charge.

Alcohol trader acquitted: The Court of First Instance acquitted a man accused of trading in alcohol due to lack of conclusive evidence.

The court was told that the defendant was caught red-handed when he was striking a deal with a police informant to sell some whiskey.

However, the defendant was deported while the prosecutor was reviewing the case.

The court based its decision of acquittal on the whiskey was not seen or analysed by the medical examiner. It had been destroyed with other contraband by the authorities.

Four sentenced for assault: The Criminal Court sentenced four convicts to different imprisonment terms over a vehicle dispute.

The court sentenced the first convict to three months imprisonment, the second and third to three months imprisonment, the fourth to three months imprisonment with KD100 bail.

Oil

barrels daily but quota busting took actual volume in June to 23.2 million, the West's International Energy Agency said yesterday.

Some senior ministers have long said privately they have almost despised of the UAE, attributing its maverick behaviour to motives of internal prestige.

They feel the real key to restoring Opec credibility is for the market to see Kuwait as following Saudi Arabia, the biggest exporter, in restraining output to protect the \$18 price.

Gianjar said: "I think we have a better chance now. The remaining problem is the UAE."

Gianjar would not comment specifically on this but did say that Opec, like the market, was "exasperated" when some members did not stick to production agreements.

Opec delegation sources earlier said the United Arab Emirates was apparently still insisting on getting a quota of two million barrels per day — a third as much again as Opec has hitherto been willing to concede to it.

Al Ameeri today visited the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation office in London to meet with its



(Continued from Page 1)

Belgium, Luxembourg, UK and Italy.

Ameeri had talks with the corporation officials on the future plans of the Kuwait Petroleum International.

The Kuwaiti minister has arrived here last night from Algeria concluding a one-day official visit, the source added.

World crude oil supplies fell by 600,000 b/d to 53.7 million b/d last month, a report by the International Energy Agency (IEA) has disclosed here.

It pointed out that the decline was due to lower production by member countries of Opec and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Open production, it said, stood at 23.2 million b/d in June a decline of 350,000 b/d from the previous month and 700,000 b/d lower than the April figure.

OECD output in the month was estimated at 15.6 million b/d a drop of 300,000 b/d from May.

United States output fell by 200,000 b/d to 8.6 million b/d. North Sea production slipped by 100,000 b/d to 3.9 million b/d, while Canadian output stood at 100,000 b/d, an increase of



Tunnel tragedy

A Turkish pilgrim hugs her grand-daughter at Makkah. Many returning Turks said they had witnessed the tunnel tragedy. (Reuters wirephoto)

New private schools prohibited

Traditions to be preserved

KUWAIT'S Ministry of Education has prohibited the opening of any new private foreign schools or any branches of existing schools.

Issuing this statement, the assistant undersecretary of the Ministry of Education for private education, Dr Yacoub Al Sharrafi commented that foreign education prevailed in the country due to the existence of foreign communities and the authorities had permitted the establishment of these private schools with the provision that they apply curriculums of their own countries.

The aim of prohibiting the establishment of new private foreign schools is to abide by recommendations approved by education ministers of the GCC states to preserve Arabic traditions and values of the region.

The official said that all private schools and institutes are subjected to supervision of the Ministry of Education and the former have to submit their budgets and closing accounts ratified by the legal auditing offices in the country.

The ratified accounts and budgets testify to the financial capabilities of these educational institutions and reduces the financial burden of the ministry when disputes are referred to courts by staff members or other forms of litigation, the official said.

Jordanian youth stabs another

A JORDANIAN youth identified as Del A is alleged to have stabbed another Jordanian with a knife causing him serious injuries. The victim has been admitted to the intensive care unit at Mubarak Al Kabir Hospital.

According to sources, a dispute had previously taken place between the youth and the victim at Hawalli.

should be distributed under the supervision of the authority.

He added that minors funds should be audited by licensed auditing bureaus and statements clarifying the accounts movements should be submitted to orphans when they become adults.

Meanwhile, the official said that there was co-operation between the authority and the Credit and Saving Bank in extending loans to minors. He pointed out that any loan to be extended by the bank to minors should be made through the authority in its capacity as custodian of minors.

He said that the embassy faces complaints from Kuwaiti tourists every year. On top of the list is theft.

Meanwhile, the study disclosed that Kuwaiti students in government schools amounted to about 203,411 in all school education stages with about 67,328 in the primary stage and about 120,770 in the intermediate stage.

Apart from the above, the study said that the primary stage had got the lion's share with about 3,764 classes followed by the intermediate with about 3,729

classes while the biggest average for students in each class was in the secondary stage with 34 students in each class.

Apart from the above, the study said that there were about 863 students in the religious institutes and about 1,930 in the special institutes with about 247 classes and 597 teachers for both.

It added that most Gulf students studying in Kuwait

were from Saudi Arabia.

On the other hand, the study referred that most of the other Arab students were from Jordan with a total of 57,255 students more than half studying in the secondary stage. The study said that all the teachers in the kindergarten stages numbering 1,949

were Kuwaiti females.

State to preserve minors' rights

Funds invested wisely

THE ex-director general of Kuwait's Public Authority for Minors Affairs Hmoud Al Mudhyan was quoted as saying that the authority has adopted the appropriate measures to preserve minors rights.

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

NOTHING in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood.
—Marie Curie, Polish-born physicist (1867-1934).

OPINION

Chasing the bats:
a national duty

THE onset of summer this year, was unlike the past, mainly due to the executive and practical steps recommended to establish firm bases for the development of the new age of Kuwait.

Thus, we are on the threshold of the new Kuwaiti era: running after the 21st century to achieve development and to provide equal opportunities to all citizens without considering family, tribe or area.

It is the dawning of the era of Jaber Al Ahmed and his promise which came true through the popular participation of citizens who were waiting for the order to respond positively to the new life with utter loyalty.

In the era of Jaber Al Ahmed the new generation shoulders its responsibility to the national work through scientific basis.

Now we resume work that began before Eid Al Adha and we must state that to protect and support the new era, the government will not be able to achieve its great goals, without reforming and developing the performance of its public staff. This mission can be achieved this summer and the dreams and hopes of the Kuwait people realised after the Kuwaiti people have elected their representatives in the National Council.

If the new government executes its work through experienced staff who do not have different aims or selfish policies, it will not be in a critical position. The government will be completely free as it goes about "cleaning its staff"—although previous cabinets were not able to achieve this goal.

In many countries of the world, senior officials of the public staff used to resign from their posts on the formation of the new cabinet. This is a normal tradition which aims at achieving fluency in the performance of public duties and ensures that the programmes of the new cabinet will be carried out without any deviation.

Conversely, it is the new cabinet that is the authority that decides whether to accept these resignations or not. We once again would like to reiterate that there are "bats" still living in government caves in the form of government staff. These bats still occupy seats in a number of boards of government companies and establishments.

They won their seats through elections that were dominated by old considerations such as family ties or tribal aspects which contradict the present trends of the state. These boards were formed according to the old family systems and not according to requirements of performance of these companies.

We could readily ask: "What did we get from these boards and what will we get from them if they continue in future? Nothing—compared to the ambitions of the new era.

Many qualified youths were left out of these boards due to the ill-influence of these bats. It is a tragedy—hopefully bypassed with the approach of the new era. We would not want to see this tragedy transferred to a bigger tragedy in the future.

We should hasten to reconsider the bona fides of the boards and officials of the government companies and establishments. We should investigate the circumstances that led these bats to their posts. The aim is to achieve fluency in economic performance of these companies and ensure good returns.

The bats that we spoke about before do not exist in the public sector only, but also on boards of large companies which serve old interests—these were isolated by the Kuwaiti people on the day of elections of the National Council.

By this, we do not mean all companies, because there are legal boards which perform their full duties in a successful manner. We speak of boards, where some members come only to receive their bonuses at the end of the fiscal year.

Membership in these companies is a kind of honour and social status as well as increasing their incomes. These people are considered a heavy burden on companies and government that own shares in these companies. It has become impossible to continue with this situation during the new era.

We should start chasing the bats as of now. As cleaning government staff is a national duty, cleaning of boards of some companies is also a national duty. We should start opening windows for the light because bats can't face light as they like to work in darkness.

Let thousands of qualified nationals take their chances and serve the country. These qualified youths are our "vehicles" to have changes and development. They who responded when political leadership issued the decree to establish the National Council. They took their full rights in elections of the Council and in the new cabinet. But they still await the opportunity to occupy their posts in government staff and in boards of companies.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

TODAY IN HISTORY

1585—France's King Henry III is forced to sign Treaty of Marmoutier with the Guises, whereby he capitulates to their demands for revoking all toleration of the Huguenots.
1647—Naples revolts against Spain.
1718—Alexis, heir to Russia's Peter the Great, is murdered at instigation of his father.
1749—Spain's Ferdinand VI severs himself from "Family compact" with France.
1753—Act is passed for naturalization of Jews in England.
1801—Toussaint L'Ouverture, black general, proclaims Haiti's independence from France.
1815—Allied forces enter Paris, following Napoleon Bonaparte's abdication.
1898—United States annexes island of Hawaii.
1913—Britain's House of Commons passes Irish Home rule bill.
1925—South Africa's Senate rejects colour-bar bill.
1937—Japanese troops on manoeuvres near Beijing clash with Chinese, marking start of Sino-Japanese war.
1960—Belgium sends troops to the Congo.
1973—Iraq executes 23 people accused of having attempted to overthrow government.
1987—At least 46 Hindus are killed in two attacks on buses within 24 hours in Punjab and Haryana in India by suspected Sikh terrorists.
1989—Thousands of people defy martial law in Burma and rally in memory of citizens killed during military crackdowns.



Gorbachev speaks with delegates during a break at the 28th party congress. (Reuter wirephoto)

Seizure of Communist Party control

Hardliners appear on course

MOSCOW, (Reuter): Hard-line Marxists appear headed to seize control of the Soviet Communist Party at the end of its 28th congress next week.

But both Soviet and foreign analysts say it would almost certainly be a Pyrrhic victory as power and influence over the country's affairs slips ever faster from the party's grasp.

As delegates gathered last weekend for the 10-day forum, a non-communist administration began closing down party cells in Moldavian government offices, in the republic's radio and television stations and in the Ministry of the Interior.

Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov made clear they would stay in their government posts whether they had the delegates' confidence or not.

At the same time, there has been an increasing drift from the party, which still claims some 18 million members, with strong signs that mass defections will follow if the congress fails to endorse radical reform.

Network

"What we are seeing is the end of the party as we knew it—a power network whose leaders at every level were king, policeman and judge," said historian Roy Medvedev.

"It was not party but a new nobility which anyone had to join who wanted to make any sort of career," said journalist Andrei Maximov, editor of a young Communist League weekly.

At the congress over the past three days, angry delegates have accused Mikhail Gorbachev and especially his reformist aides of undermining the party's authority among the people.

Understand

And while conservatives have insisted they will not move to dump Gorbachev as party chief, they have left little doubt that they aim to surround him with hard-line colleagues.

Medvedev explained the anger of the conservatives.

"Before, the party chief in my Moscow district called the shots on everything. Now not only the mayor ignores him but so does the local public prosecutor, who always did his bidding.

Understand

"He doesn't understand what has happened, where his power went. But he knows who to blame for it and he is furious, and there are tens of thousands like him in the country."

Many radicals on the left of the party are urging Gorbachev to step down from his post as general secretary or even leave the party altogether if the hardliners take control.

But Gorbachev loyalists say he sees no need to do this. "By staying there, he can still exert a moderating influence," said one official of the party's Central Committee.

"And over these past few months he has carefully built up his own alternative power base in the state presidency from which he and his chosen aides can set policy as they see fit, whether the party likes it or not.

"You should no longer assume that the party and state leadership are the same thing—even if he heads both."

Kremlin maverick Boris Yeltsin clearly takes a similar view. Since his election as Russian federation president in May, he has used its Parliament to

challenge party power.

The Soviet government, whose head is appointed by Gorbachev in his role as president and is subordinate to Parliament and no longer to the party Politburo, is also emerging as an independent—if so far not totally effective—force.

But Moscow journalists who know the provinces well warn that the party leaders will not cede power without a struggle.

"In thousands of towns and villages, where political awareness is still low, the party chief is still lord and master," said Viktor Loshak, deputy chief editor of the weekly Moscow News.

"These are the forces you see at work at the congress. They can still do a lot of harm. They can still postpone change."

"But reformers in the centre and on the left are confident that life, and the economic crisis caused by old-style command-and-administer management, are working in their favour."

Gorbachev's aide Alexander Yakovlev and deputy Premier Leonid Abalkin told the congress the party itself was in danger of ending the West was headed—on the rubbish heap of history.

"Only a party renewed, rejuvenated and more to the left can lead the country further down the path of deep change," said Yakovlev, widely regarded as the intellectual architect of Gorbachev's democratisation of Soviet society.

"But this movement cannot be halted. It will go on. With the party or without it... you can defend dogmas for a while. But no one has yet managed to stop history."

Centam forces resist reduction

MEXICO CITY, (Reuter): Central American armies are resisting troop reductions and attempts to loosen their long grip on power despite moves towards peace in a region devastated by a decade of war, officials said.

Washington, in a significant reversal of its policy in the 1980s, is calling for military cuts and disarmament throughout the area and has slashed military aid to pro-US governments. Central American countries have also proposed reductions.

But US and local officials in the region say a number of obstacles, especially powerful officers and their entrenched military structures, stand in the way of change.

"I just do not see these armies withdrawing from their positions of power. If the guerrilla wars stop, they will find some other excuse, whether it is a conflict with a neighbour or the drug war," said one regional diplomat.

A senior US diplomat agreed. "What it is going to

take is a lot of enlightened leadership by both the politicians and the military officers. And, to be honest, there is not a lot of that around."

Critics, however, say Washington is sending mixed messages.

It has said future US aid would be tied to each country's commitment to democracy, development and disarmament, but US and Central American sources say the Defense Department is increasing personal contact and training with the region's armies and police forces in anti-drug operations.

The US presence in the past decade has not helped reduce or reform Central American armies, which critics regularly accuse of corruption and human rights abuses.

"In this time (the last decade) we have not managed to improve the military structure. It is the same—or even worse. We did not impose directives. We just gave them money," said the US diplomat.

But there are signs civilian heads of government

are trying to assert their leadership over the military.

Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro, who replaced the left-wing Sandinista government when she won elections last February, said she would halve the number of troops in the Sandinista Army after ending the eight-year Contra war in June.

Honduran President Rafael Callejas said he too was committed to discussing disarmament and El Salvador President Alfredo Cristiani announced he would reduce his country's 45,000-strong armed forces if peace talks with leftist rebels ended the conflict there which has left 75,000 dead in 10 years.

Resistance

But the regions' armies have signalled their resistance.

Even as Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo was taking part in a regional summit where military cuts were proposed, his Defence Minister Rafael Humberto Larios told reporters that a decrease was out of the question for the 40,000-man army.

Art Buchwald

US founding fathers on flag burning

I AM getting sick and tired of having people like George Will tell me what America's founding fathers meant when they wrote the constitution. Will wasn't at the Constitutional Convention, or if he was, he was down in the basement press room with the rest of us, being briefed by Thomas Jefferson's press secretary.

Take the founding fathers' position on the burning of the flag. My notes say that their spokesman indicated that the representatives from the 13 colonies debated the issue for three months. There were those who wanted flag burners to get capital punishment, and there were those who felt that 30 days of community service on the Hudson River would be

what the revolution was all about. It was freedom of speech at its best. The more flags people destroyed, the more jobs would be created for the Delaware textile business, which made red, white and blue nylon fabric for the states.

The issue would have been resolved one way or another except that a delegate from North Carolina, named Helms, interrupted the debate and attacked the budget for the National Endowment for the Arts. Pennsylvania had insisted that it be included in the constitution. Helms pointed out that the NEA was a very subversive organisation, and if it wasn't stopped in its tracks it would someday give grants to museums to hang dirty Mapplethorpe photographs on the walls.

Georgia said that the South always got the short end of the stick.

Nobody at the convention knew what a photograph was, so Helms said it didn't matter because he had heard that the NEA planned to support the financing of oil paintings of Martha Washington in the nude by Gilbert Stuart.

South Carolina announced that it could not join a nation that gave grants to pictures of men holding hands on the Boston Common. Their protest missed getting into the Bill of Rights by one vote.

This may have broken up the convention when the question of gun control came up. There was some talk by New Jersey to forbid citizens to have arms, but it was shouted down by Virginia and Maryland who claimed that, without guns, it would be impossible for them to keep their slaves from running away. New Jersey agreed to let people own firearms as long as it could someday collect tolls on the Garden State Parkway.

Interest

What makes the constitution such an interesting piece of paper is that we have so many people around today who can tell us exactly what our forefathers meant when they drafted it.

Take the issue of abortion. It isn't mentioned in the constitution, but that doesn't mean it wasn't on the front burner during the long, hot summer in Philadelphia.

After a bitter debate, the founding fathers decided to leave it out of the document so that the Congress of 1789 would have something to do.

The reason we even have a country at all is that, although the constitutional delegates hadn't the slightest idea of what they were agreeing to, it didn't matter. They knew that George Washington would tell us what they really had on their minds.

Los Angeles Times Syndicate

ARAB TIMES, SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1990

Prague

Havel re-elected by Parliament

PRAGUE, (Reuters): Playwright Vaclav Havel, Czechoslovakia's first freely elected president since 1935, could hardly have scripted a more dramatic change of fortune.

Havel, who has led the country as interim president since last year's democratic revolution swept away decades of communism, was re-elected on Thursday by the Federal Assembly.

He thus became the first president since Edward Benes in 1935 to be voted into office by a freely-elected Parliament.

Benes resigned after the 1948 communist takeover of Czechoslovakia and his five successors were all elected by docile hand-picked deputies of a communist-dominated Parliament.

Havel, the reluctant leader of the reform movement that swept Czechoslovakia, spent a total of five years in jail for his views and his plays championing the freedom of the individual were banned for 20 years.

Shy, nervous and chain-smoking, he seemed ill at ease as the focus of media attention. "I want to be a king-maker rather than a king," he said on numerous occasions.

Authority

Havel's supporters regard him as a moral authority in the same mould as Czechoslovakia's founding president Tomas Masaryk, a philosopher who served as head of state from 1918 to 1935.

Silenced by the hardline communist regime since the 1968 Soviet-led invasion, Havel was a co-founder of East Europe's oldest human rights group, Charter 77.

As the various strands of the reform movement came together, Havel was always somewhere at the centre, leading talks with the crumbling communist government and other opposition figures.

Crowds chanted his name as they marched through the streets demanding the resignation of the government and free elections.

Since his election as interim president last December, Havel's popularity at home has bordered on adulation and he has gained universal respect from the world's leaders on whirlwind visits abroad ranging from Washington to Moscow.

Between January and June this year Havel went on 21 trips through Czechoslovakia and visited 12 foreign countries.

In 123 working days Havel gave more than 50 speeches, met 52 representatives of foreign governments and flew more than 30,000 km (18,750 miles) by plane or helicopter.

He had just four days off and spent 10 days in hospital and 11 days convalescing after a hernia operation in March.

Havel was born in Prague on Oct 5, 1936, son of a wealthy building contractor. He had described his background as "quite bourgeois, perhaps upper middle class," something often quoted against him communist government spokesman.

Family

When the communists came to power in 1948, his family holdings were confiscated.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Nations in desperate shape try economic shock therapy

NEW YORK, July 6, (AP): The term "shock therapy" originated in medicine, but lately it's been used just as much in economics. Nations as varied as the Soviet Union, Brazil, Poland and Peru are finding their economies in such desperate shape that draconian, shock cures may be the only answer.

Just a few years ago, some of these shock treatments would have been considered politically or economically suicidal. In communist countries, shock therapy has meant trying to switch from a centrally planned economy to one driven by the free market.

In non-communist nations, it has meant clamping down on inflation to the extent of nearly confiscating private savings, and powerful government intervention in nominally free economies.

Poland and Brazil have moved decisively

down the road of shock therapy so far. They have not been able to claim complete success, but some initial results have been encouraging. Shock therapy has also been under consideration in the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Peru and Nicaragua. But so far these nations have shrank back in favour of a less drastic solution.

The Polish economic programme was launched Jan 1 in a drive to create a market economy from the shattered system imposed over four decades by the communist government. It included cutting government subsidies to ailing state-run enterprises.

Poles raised had to come from each industry's own resources. These strict wage controls, coupled with the raising of prices to market levels, reduced Poles' real incomes by an estimated 40 per cent.

Bolstered by strong popular support at home, the government of Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki made the zloty currency fully convertible, backed by a one-billion-dollar reserve fund lent by Western nations.

Six months later, government statistics showed the country had entered a deep recession. However Polish economics journalist Krzysztof Bien said the government could claim some success for its plan, although "it is not yet at the stage that would permit us to say that we are irrevocably on the road to a market economy."

Across the border, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's key advisers were reportedly working on a Polish-style virtual overnight conversion of the economic system by freeing most prices and currency controls and letting market forces reshape the economy.

But the Soviet plan leaked to the press, touching off an outcry from a fearful public.

In mid-May, Gorbachev's advisers approved a milder reform plan, which envisioned a doubling of food prices, an 82-per cent rise in energy costs and an average 43-per cent rise in retail prices — but only if the public supported it in a public referendum, for which no date was set.

The Soviet government laid out a five-year schedule of food price hikes, banking reforms and partial privatisations designed to produce a so-called regulated market economy.

Even this touched off panic buying of food items. But radical Soviet reformers found the plan too timid. They criticised the government for backing away from the radical restructuring undertaken by Poland.

Radical economist Pavel Bunic told the Supreme Soviet legislature that the government was merely offering "shock therapy without the therapy," a policy that would hurt without leading to a real market system.

Jeffrey Sachs, an American adviser who initiated the financing project, said the Soviets' gradual strategy is "more humane than Poland's" and "more fitting for a country that hasn't known a market for 70 years."

Sachs, a private consultant, is unrelated to Harvard University professor Jeffrey Sachs who helped devise Poland's shock therapy programme.

The Soviet five-year plan is a compromise between the old-style centrally planned Soviet economy, under which Moscow set virtually all prices and wages, and the radical Polish-style "shock therapy" to shift to a market

economy over two years.

"Getting halfway there may be worse than never even starting," said Ed Hewitt, a Soviet analyst at the Brookings Institute, a Washington research organisation.

Shock therapy, on the other hand, said Soviet First Deputy Premier Yuri Maslyukov, "could throw 40 million people out of work and would lead the country to the edge of an economic crash."

Among non-communist countries, Fernando Collor de Mello, the first popularly elected Brazilian president in 29 years, announced his "shock therapy" plan March 16, one day after winning the presidential election.

Collor claimed he had cut inflation from 84.3 per cent in March to 8 per cent in May.

KPC made \$1.19b profit last year

Commissioning of Mina Abdullah refinery most significant

VIENNA, July 6, (Opecna): The Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) realised a profit of \$1.19 billion in 1989, up by more than 680 million over the previous year, according to the corporation's 1989 annual report.

In a foreword to the report, former KPC Board chairman and oil minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah says that KPC had achieved a capital gain of 15.9 per cent and an annual average of 20 per cent throughout the nine years of its existence, during which the value of its assets had increased four-fold and the shareholders' interests had risen six-fold.

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Kuwait

Kaifu speaks for Asia at summit

TOKYO, June 6. (Reuter): Premier Toshiki Kaifu plans to speak at next week's Houston summit not only for Japan but for all of Asia. But does Asia want him to?

Diplomats said that, while Japan's neighbours welcome its aid, technology and investment, bad memories of the past and the complex web of alliances in Asia make them unwilling to accept Japan as their political leader.

As the representative of the only nation from Asia, Kaifu will not only present at the summit the case of Japan but will take the initiative on Asian matters, including China, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said today.

Kaifu leaves Japan today to join the leaders of France, West Germany, Canada, Britain,

Italy and the United States for the Group of Seven (G-7) summit in Houston starting on Tuesday.

Yesterday Kaifu called South Korean President Roh Tae-woo to brief him on Japan's position at the summit and assured him he would urge the participants to do all they can for peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and elsewhere in Asia.

The agenda is dominated by non-Asian issues — rebuilding Eastern Europe, how much to aid the Soviet Union, and policy toward the Middle East and Central America.

The only Asian item is whether to end economic sanctions against China.

In an editorial yesterday, the Asahi Shimbun,

a Japanese daily newspaper, attempted to sum up the feeling of the outsider at the Houston banquet.

"As the only party who did not participate directly in the changes (of the last year), Japan cannot drink champagne with the other six," it said.

Unlike the two blocs that used to confront each other in Europe, Asia presents a more complicated picture, it said.

The dramatic changes of the last year in Europe have had only a faint echo in Asia.

China suppressed a democracy movement, the forces of the two Koreas, armed to the teeth, remain poised for battle, the Cambodian conflict has grown more intense and unrest in

Kashmir has brought India and Pakistan close to war.

While Moscow and Washington discuss withdrawing their troops from Europe, Tokyo wants US troops to stay in Asia.

A Western diplomat said Japan wanted a new political status to match its role as an economic superpower but was constrained by historical dependence on the United States, the complexity of the Asian situation and bitter memories of wartime rule.

"If Japan tries to play the role of leader in Asia, it would only be at the price of arousing repugnance because of history," the Asahi editorial noted.

The scars of history remain visible today.

ARAB TIMES, SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1990

Future technology

Will Japan reign supreme?

ATSUGI, Japan, July 6. (AP): A beam of X-rays streams down from an ungainly, multi-million-dollar ring of metal tubes. Their target: a prototype semiconductor chip, on which they will etch circuit parts two-tenths of a micron (0.001 millimetres or 0.00004 inches) across — the width of a single bacteria.

Technology such as this 16-metre (53-foot) ring, being tested by the Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Co., may make the ultra-complex semiconductors of the future. But at \$1 million each, semiconductors plants with such X-ray rings will cost more than chip makers in many countries can afford.

The equipment at NTT's Atsugi laboratory illustrates the willingness — and financial ability — of Japanese companies to invest in future technologies.

As the costs and time needed to develop many advanced technologies skyrocket, fewer companies will have the means or the will to perfect them. As a result, analysts say, cash-rich, aggressive Japanese firms may extend their already-growing technological edge.

Japan still lags behind Europe and the United States in the building of some specialised equipment, and for now spends less overall than Americans on research and development. Computer software is a crucial area in which Americans still hold advantages.

But as the chip-etching technology illustrates, Japan has a strong ability to concentrate money and attention on key areas of research that could tip the future of whole industries.

In semiconductors, for instance, the fast-growing number of tiny parts on semiconductor chips means factories soon will no longer be able to use normal light beams to etch extremely fine circuit lines.

US companies have announced only one private research project like NTT's X-ray ring — a joint effort by IBM and Motorola that uses a general-purpose ring at the federal government's Brookhaven laboratory. But already half a dozen experimental rings — called synchrotron orbital radiation devices — exist in Japan, and immense Japanese companies are pouring hundreds of millions of dollars into their development.

"Without the tools and without the capital to make the tools, the next generation of semiconductors will be more and more difficult (for US companies) to make," said E. David Metz, executive director of the US Semiconductor Industry Association's Japan office.

Just after the Chinese government moved its military forces against demonstrators, bank President Barber Conable withdrew \$780 million worth of loans from China from consideration. Then President George Bush asked the bank to halt lending to China. Later there was international agreement that new loans should be limited to basic human needs.

The past year also brought a large drop in World Bank lending to India, where loans fell to \$1.9 billion from \$3 billion the year before. But bank officials said that was a coincidence and not the result of policy.

Mexico displaced India as the biggest borrower, taking \$2.6 billion compared with \$2.2 billion in the previous year.

Leading by the bank had been rising steadily, and is expected to increase again in the next 12 months.

The bank is now playing a much bigger role in what used to be considered the "second world." European countries that have been under communist rule.

"We have initiated lending in Poland for a total of some \$780 million this fiscal year — and have confirmed our programmes in Hungary," Quarshie said at a news conference last week.

"We are preparing support programmes for Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia, both of which are expected to become bank members in the coming year, and are ready to rescue our activities in Romania."

The late communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu paid off almost all Romania's debts but the country has remained among the bank's 151 member countries.

The Soviet Union has never belonged. Treasury Secretary Nicholas F. Brady spoke recently of creating some tie between the Soviets, the bank and its sister organisation, the International Monetary Fund.

The Soviet Union will be a member of the new European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, but for three years will be able to borrow only as much as it contributes in the form of paid-in capital.

World Bank President Barber Conable urged the United States and other creditor governments to reduce the burden of the debts owed them by Poland and other "middle income" countries.

The bank, includes among these countries Bolivia, where the average citizen earns about \$270 a year, to a nation like Greece, where the average is \$4,800.

"Poland's debt situation must be dealt with in some way," Conable said.

"They have almost \$45 billion in debt, they have a one year moratorium on principal and interest and clearly the debt service for that would make it very difficult for Poland to rescue growth and to make the necessary investments for getting a functioning economy with moving parts."

"Debt service" means payments of interest and principal.

Most Polish debt is owned to governments, with West Germany and France the biggest creditors. About \$3 billion is owed to the US government's Export-Import Bank and Commodity Credit Corporation.

The World Bank has lent Poland \$780 million in the past 12 months. Conable said that was done on the assumption that some international settlement would be made on the rest of Poland's official debt.

Most traders blamed the proposal for a 32-point fall yesterday in the Dow Jones industrial index on the New York Stock Exchange.

A transaction tax would be

carbon fibre was used in airplane wings," he said.

That "bottom-up" approach to technology allows companies to cut prices through mass production and gives them the manufacturing expertise and capital for subsequent generations of technological change, Karatsu said.

Despite the overseas image of a monolithic "Japan, Inc." in many Japanese consumer industries a large number of companies compete fiercely, creating a marketplace where profits depend on narrow time leads for new products and where technological competition can bring disaster.

Japanese managers also consistently have turned economic adversity into technological advantage, Karatsu said. He cited the sudden rise in the value of the Japanese yen five years ago as a spur to companies facing competition from lower-cost producers like South Korea and Taiwan.

"Managers realised the need to focus on high-value-added, high-technology products," Karatsu said. "Within three years, the production technology in virtually all Japanese factories was upgraded and most marginal production was eliminated."

In 1988, Japan spent 10.6 trillion yen (\$67 billion) on research and development, about half the total spent in the United States. The Science and Technology Agency says that represents about 2.85 per cent of Japan's gross national product, slightly above the US level.

But private industry paid for 80 per cent of Japan's research, compared with less than 50 per cent in the United States. Rather than funding large research projects, Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) is widely credited with successfully targeting key products such as cars and semiconductors and co-ordinating the efforts of Japanese industry to achieve technological leadership.

Many MITI projects focus on development of technologies that can be used in new products in about five to 10 years. In contrast, the US government generally limits its research programmes to far-off technologies so as not to favour any particular industry, said Louis Ianniello, deputy associate director for basic energy sciences at the US Department of Energy.

Ianniello was in Japan recently asking for financial backing for the United States' proposed \$8-billion superconducting supercollider — a huge particle accelerator — which backers say is unlikely to result in practical applications for more than 10 years.

And as in other countries, Japanese government procurement practices also have played a role in technological advancement. Under US pressure, Japan recently agreed to open up bidding on government purchases of supercomputers and satellites.

But large investments by private companies remain the overwhelming driving force in Japanese technological progress. Companies say they're willing to co-operate with other firms in government-sponsored basic research, but jealously protect their own advanced research.

Fuji Saito, a vice-president of NEC Corp., a leading computer and semiconductor maker, says the money in government research programmes is "not so important." More significant, he says is "a national goal has the effect of orienting individual companies in a particular direction. Once such a big goal is indicated, many people make an effort to develop the necessary elements."

Mitsubishi's most recent project is a "sixth-generation" computer programme aimed at linking a million microprocessors in a single computer, compared to the single process in most current machines. The United States now leads in such research, called "massive parallel processing," in which problems are broken down into multiple parts and solved simultaneously by the many processors.

In Japan, research is the business of business," said James Abegglen, professor of international business at Tokyo's Sophia University. "In the United States, not enough is spent on research, and there's a massive waste of research and development funds in sectors like the military that are not very productive in commercial terms."

Hajime Karatsu, a professor at Tokai University, says US and European researchers tend to use new technologies first for the most sophisticated applications — often high-priced, low-production military products — while Japanese researchers, generally employed by private companies, favour the mass consumer market.

"In Japan, research is the business of business," said James Abegglen, professor of international business at Tokyo's Sophia University. "In the United States, not enough is spent on research, and there's a massive waste of research and development funds in sectors like the military that are not very productive in commercial terms."

To succeed, Japan will need to boost its software and systems integration skills — where analysts say it still lags — because of the difficult challenge of co-ordinating the many processors.

Japan's technological prowess has other gaps as well. The Trade Ministry, in a recent report, called for a doubling of government science spending, to about one percent of GNP, to invigorate Japan's weak basic science research.

Raise revenue, pare US budget deficit

Bush thinking over securities sales tax

WASHINGTON, July 6. (Reuter): A plan to tax securities transactions is one of several options being considered by the US administration to raise revenue and pare the United States budget deficit, congressional sources said yesterday.

But the idea, labelled in an article in the Wall Street Journal newspaper as a securities transfer excise tax of 0.5 per cent on sales,

drew angry opposition from securities industry executives who said it could hurt American competitiveness in the world market.

Many traders blamed the proposal for a 32-point fall yesterday in the Dow Jones industrial index on the New York Stock Exchange.

A transaction tax would be

seen as a major setback to US efforts to recapture a piece of the securities trading business, which has increasingly fled to overseas markets such as Tokyo and London.

Officials of the White House and the Securities and Exchange Commission, the agency which regulates the securities industry, were unavailable for comment on the proposal.

Brady calls for lower interest rates to aid economy

WASHINGTON, July 6. (Reuter): In a move that puts added pressure on the Federal Reserve to loosen its grip, Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady called yesterday for lower interest rates to keep the 7-1/2 year US economic expansion on track.

"We are enjoying slower than projected growth and that's not good," Brady told a small group of reporters ahead of next week's economic summit in Houston of top industrial democracies.

The economy grew at an annual pace of 1.9 per cent in the first quarter, below the administration's 1990 forecast of 2.6 per cent.

Brady's remarks were the latest in a series of statements by top administration officials aimed at convincing the US central bank to loosen its grip on credit and sanction a drop in interest rates.

So far, the Federal Reserve has resisted the political pressure, placing more emphasis on the fight against inflation than on ensuring continued economic growth.

"Worries about inflation are important but they shouldn't be subjected to a good, strong, healthy concern for continued growth," Brady said.

While he did not see signs of a recession, Brady made clear that the administration believed the economy is not growing fast enough.

"We are below the administration's growth goals

and we would like to get back on that path again as soon as possible," he said.

Brady acknowledged that his ability to influence the independent Federal Reserve was limited.

"The Fed conducts its own affairs and does it as it sees fit," he said. "Treasury secretaries don't affect that very much."

But he said that the administration was doing its part to foster lower interest rates by working hard to reach an agreement with Congress on reducing the US budget deficit.

Higher interest rates tend to push up the deficit by increasing the cost of borrowing to the treasury.

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Eid in style

Eid Al Adha was celebrated in style with family and friends by Sheikha Nashmiya Al Ahmed Al Sabah. The Sheikh held a lavish reception at her home on Wednesday. Kuwaiti ladies from prominent families were invited to exchange greetings.

During Eid, open-houses are often held by Muslim families so that family and friends can together celebrate the festival. Such events were also held by a number of families.

Pictures above show Sheikha Nasbmiya preparing for the arrival of her guests; right: some of the ladies who attended. In the background are some of the prized possessions collected by Sheikha Nasbmiya.



SUNDAY
July 8
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Macaroni: cartoon serial
6.30 The Beachcombers: "Stars of Wonder." A baby is born in the Wilderness; because the infant is premature, only a miracle can save its life. Starring: Bruno Gerussi, Robert Clothier.

7.00 Natural World: "The Serpent Embrace." Serpents in mythology; superstitions revolving around them and other cults.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Made-in-Kuwait: Start of a new local series on products around Kuwait. Also, a look at local industrial development.

9.30 E.N.G. "Special Segment." News editor Mike assigns the reporters to prepare special reports on the American way of life. Terry's assignment — a profile on a doctor — turns to be an exciting affair.

10.00 The Lenny Henry Show: comedy.

10.30 Best Seller: "Kane and Abel," based on Jeffrey Archer's best-selling novel of the same name. Starring: Peter Strauss, Sam O'Neil.

12.00 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

MONDAY

July 9
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Cartoons

6.30 Only One Earth: "The Road to Rio." A look at Solomon Island.

7.00 Roving Report: KTV presents roundup of regional and world news.

7.30 Charles-in-Charge: Charles and Buddy learn that Nancy is not who she claims to be. Will they reveal her true identity?

8.00 News in English
8.40 Face to Face: A local programme. Tonight, an interview with Dala Al Ghani, deputy manager for marketing affairs at a local bank.

9.10 Jake and the Fat Man: "The Lady in Red." Jack follows up Eddy's suicide case; investigations reveal he was murdered.

9.40 The People Next Door: "I Do, I Do." Abby is reluctant to marry a divorcee with children. Everyone tries to convince her that he is good

further. Mission: Impossible: "The Beachcombers: "Stars of Wonder." A baby is born in the Wilderness; because the infant is premature, only a miracle can save its life. Starring: Bruno Gerussi, Robert Clothier.

7.00 Natural World: "The Serpent Embrace." Serpents in mythology; superstitions revolving around them and other cults.

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12.00 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

TUESDAY

July 10
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Chic and Dale's Rescue: cartoon serial

6.30 The New Mickey Mouse Club: future planning, baby-sitters and how to make use of your old clothes are some of the items featured in this episode.

7.00 International Overdoorman: "Sailing Tall Ships." A look at ship repairs.

7.30 Kate and Allie: "Moving On." Kate, instead of attending Allie's 40th birthday party, makes other plans. Comedy.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Chart Attack: Top twenty songs from Europe.

9.00 You and the Law: a weekly programme on Kuwaiti laws; prepared by the Interior Ministry. Borderline.

9.10 News in Brief
12.00 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

WEDNESDAY

July 11
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Karate Kid: cartoon serial

6.30 Alf: "Breaking Up" is Hard to Do. Alf creates trouble for the neighbours; and Trevor is jealous.

7.00 P.M. Magazine: a magazine featuring science news from around the world.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Chart Attack: Top twenty songs from Europe.

9.00 Paradise: "The Common Good." Ethan manages to put Jenny Ryan behind bars; he also has to fight attempts to free her.

9.10 News in Brief
12.00 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

THURSDAY

July 12
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Cartoons

6.30 My Secret Identity:

9.30 Perfect Strangers: "Taking Stock." Larry buys shares and believes he has become a top businessman. Comedy.

10.30 Best Seller: "The Fortunes of War." Set in 1939, it follows the movement of refugees to Romania after Germany's occupation.

12.30 News in Brief

12.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

FRIDAY

July 13
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Karate Kid: cartoon serial

6.30 Alf: "Breaking Up" is Hard to Do. Alf creates trouble for the neighbours; and Trevor is jealous.

7.00 P.M. Magazine: a magazine featuring science news from around the world.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Chart Attack: Top twenty songs from Europe.

9.00 Paradise: "The Common Good." Ethan manages to put Jenny Ryan behind bars; he also has to fight attempts to free her.

9.10 News in Brief
12.00 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

SATURDAY

July 14
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Karate Kid: cartoon serial

6.30 Alf: "Breaking Up" is Hard to Do. Alf creates trouble for the neighbours; and Trevor is jealous.

7.00 P.M. Magazine: a magazine featuring science news from around the world.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Chart Attack: Top twenty songs from Europe.

9.00 Paradise: "The Common Good." Ethan manages to put Jenny Ryan behind bars; he also has to fight attempts to free her.

9.10 News in Brief
12.00 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

SUNDAY

July 15
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Karate Kid: cartoon serial

6.30 Alf: "Breaking Up" is Hard to Do. Alf creates trouble for the neighbours; and Trevor is jealous.

7.00 P.M. Magazine: a magazine featuring science news from around the world.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Chart Attack: Top twenty songs from Europe.

9.00 Paradise: "The Common Good." Ethan manages to put Jenny Ryan behind bars; he also has to fight attempts to free her.

9.10 News in Brief
12.00 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

MONDAY

July 16
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Karate Kid: cartoon serial

6.30 Alf: "Breaking Up" is Hard to Do. Alf creates trouble for the neighbours; and Trevor is jealous.

7.00 P.M. Magazine: a magazine featuring science news from around the world.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Chart Attack: Top twenty songs from Europe.

9.00 Paradise: "The Common Good." Ethan manages to put Jenny Ryan behind bars; he also has to fight attempts to free her.

9.10 News in Brief
12.00 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

TUESDAY

July 17
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Karate Kid: cartoon serial

6.30 Alf: "Breaking Up" is Hard to Do. Alf creates trouble for the neighbours; and Trevor is jealous.

7.00 P.M. Magazine: a magazine featuring science news from around the world.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Chart Attack: Top twenty songs from Europe.

9.00 Paradise: "The Common Good." Ethan manages to put Jenny Ryan behind bars; he also has to fight attempts to free her.

9.10 News in Brief
12.00 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

WEDNESDAY

July 18
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Karate Kid: cartoon serial

6.30 Alf: "Breaking Up" is Hard to Do. Alf creates trouble for the neighbours; and Trevor is jealous.

7.00 P.M. Magazine: a magazine featuring science news from around the world.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Chart Attack: Top twenty songs from Europe.

9.00 Paradise: "The Common Good." Ethan manages to put Jenny Ryan behind bars; he also has to fight attempts to free her.

9.10 News in Brief
12.00 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

THURSDAY

July 19
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Karate Kid: cartoon serial

6.30 Alf: "Breaking Up" is Hard to Do. Alf creates trouble for the neighbours; and Trevor is jealous.

7.00 P.M. Magazine: a magazine featuring science news from around the world.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Chart Attack: Top twenty songs from Europe.

9.00 Paradise: "The Common Good." Ethan manages to put Jenny Ryan behind bars; he also has to fight attempts to free her.

9.10 News in Brief
12.00 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

FRIDAY

July 20
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Karate Kid: cartoon serial

6.30 Alf: "Breaking Up" is Hard to Do. Alf creates trouble for the neighbours; and Trevor is jealous.

7.00 P.M. Magazine: a magazine featuring science news from around the world.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Chart Attack: Top twenty songs from Europe.

9.00 Paradise: "The Common Good." Ethan manages to put Jenny Ryan behind bars; he also has to fight attempts to free her.

9.10 News in Brief
12.00 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

SATURDAY

July 21
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Karate Kid: cartoon serial

6.30 Alf: "Breaking Up" is Hard to Do. Alf creates trouble for the neighbours; and Trevor is jealous.

7.00 P.M. Magazine: a magazine featuring science news from around the world.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Chart Attack: Top twenty songs from Europe.

9.00 Paradise: "The Common Good." Ethan manages to put Jenny Ryan behind bars; he also has to fight attempts to free her.

9.10 News in Brief
12.00 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

SUNDAY

July 22
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Karate Kid: cartoon serial

6.30 Alf: "Breaking Up" is Hard to Do. Alf creates trouble for the neighbours; and Trevor is jealous.

7.00 P.M. Magazine: a magazine featuring science news from around the world.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Chart Attack: Top twenty songs from Europe.

9.00 Paradise: "The Common Good." Ethan manages to put Jenny Ryan behind bars; he also has to fight attempts to free her.

9.10 News in Brief
12.00 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

MONDAY

July 23
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Karate Kid: cartoon serial

6.30 Alf: "Breaking Up" is Hard to Do. Alf creates trouble for the neighbours; and Trevor is jealous.

7.00 P.M. Magazine: a magazine featuring science news from around the world.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Chart Attack: Top twenty songs from Europe.

9.00 Paradise: "The Common Good." Ethan manages to put Jenny Ryan behind bars; he also has to fight attempts to free her.

9.10 News in Brief
12.00 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

TUESDAY

July 24
6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Karate Kid: cartoon serial

6.30 Alf: "Breaking Up" is Hard to Do. Alf creates trouble for the neighbours; and Trevor is jealous.

7.00 P.M. Magazine: a magazine featuring science news from around the world.



An eye for survival: Human numbers will grow faster than ever before during the 1990s, while environmental degradation reduces the earth's capacity to sustain human life. The 1990s is therefore a time for "looking further ahead than usual," says the United Nations Population Fund.

Illustration: Hector Cattaneo

Choices for a new century

"THE next ten years will decide the shape of the 21st century. They may decide the future of the earth as a habitat for humans," said Dr Nafis Sadik, UNFPA executive director.

The 1990s will see greater increases in human numbers than any decade in history, according to the report. World population is increasing by three people every second — about a quarter of a million each day. Between 90 and 100 million people — roughly equivalent to the current population of Eastern Europe or Central America — will be added every year during the 1990s.

World population growth continues to be grossly out of balance, with more than 90 per cent of growth coming in the developing regions. By and large, the biggest increases will be in the poorest countries — those by definition least equipped to meet the needs of the new arrivals and invest in the future.

Just a few years ago, in 1984, it seemed like the rate of population growth was slowing everywhere except Africa and parts of South Asia. The world's population seemed set to stabilise around 10.2 billion towards the end of the next century, the report continues.

Today, the situation looks less promising. Progress in reducing birth rates has been slower than expected. According to the latest United Nations projections, the world has overshot the marker points of the 1984 'most likely' medium projection, and is now on course for an eventual total that will be closer to 11 billion than 10 billion.

In 15 countries — 13 of them in Africa — birth rates actually rose between 1960-65 and 1980-85. In another 23 the birth rate fell by less than two per cent.

If fertility reduction continues to be slower than projected, the mark could be missed yet again. In that case the world could be headed towards an eventual total of up to 14 billion people.

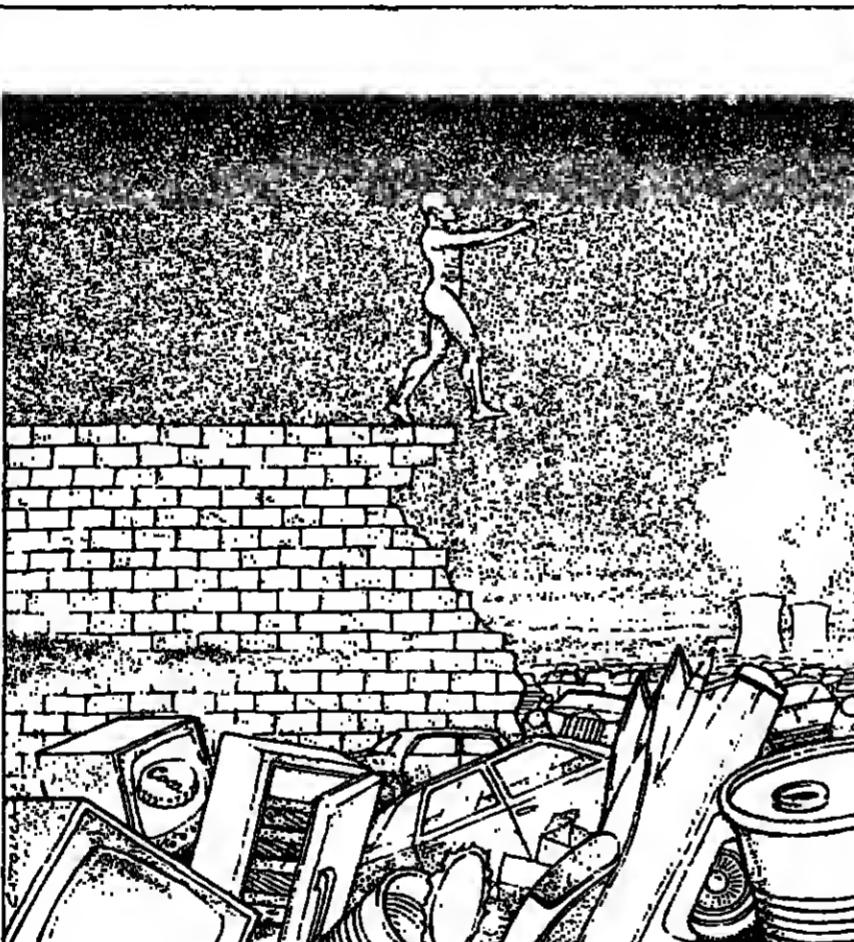
Of the present 5.3 billion people on earth, about a billion live in poverty. Can the earth meet even modest aspirations for this "bottom billion", let alone those of the better-off and their descendants, without irreparable damage to its life-support systems?" asks the report.

"Already our impact has been sufficient to degrade the soils of millions of hectares, to threaten the rain forests and the thousands of species they harbour, to thin the ozone layer, and to initiate a global warming whose full consequences cannot yet be calculated.

"By far the largest share of resources used and waste created is currently the responsibility of the 'top billion' people, those in industrialised countries. These are the countries overwhelmingly responsible for damage to the ozone layer and acidification, as well as for roughly two-thirds of global warming," the report states.

"However, in developing countries the combination of poverty and population growth among the 'bottom billion' is damaging the environment, notably through deforestation and land degradation. Deforestation is a prime source of carbon dioxide, one of the principal 'greenhouse gases' responsible for global warming. Rice paddies and domestic cattle — food suppliers for two billion people in developing countries — are also major producers of methane, another of the greenhouse gases."

The report says that developing countries are also doing their best to increase their share of industrial production and



Polluted plumes: The dream of industrial growth can soon turn into a nightmare of pollution. Eastern Europe's damaged environment serves as a grim warning to Third World countries — also under pressure to develop fast and cut safety corners.

Illustration: Hector Cattaneo

UNFPA "State of World Population" Report 1990



A critical balance: With growing environmental problems and poor family planning services, eastern Europe's problems mirror those of the developing world. Unless the region can clean up its act, there will be little chance of balancing its future development with the needs of its people.

Photo: EPA/Liaison

UNFPA "State of World Population" Report 1990

consumption. Their share of industrial pollution is rising, and will continue to rise.

Developed or developing, the more people there are, the more pollution; at any level of



Dr Nafis Sadik, executive director of United Nations Population Fund.

development larger numbers consume more resources and produce more waste, according to the report.

The report states that redressing the balance demands action in three major areas:

- firstly, a shift to cleaner technologies, energy efficiency and resources conservation by all countries, but especially the richer quarter of the world's population;
- secondly, a direct and all-out attack on poverty itself;
- thirdly, it demands reductions in overall rates of population growth; "reducing population growth, especially in the countries with the highest rates of growth, will be a crucial part of any strategy of sustainable development," the report says.

"The quality of human life is inseparable from the quality of the environment. It is increasingly clear that both are inseparable from the question of human numbers and concentrations. One of the clearest lessons of the last two decades of work in population is that investments in human resource development — for example, improvements in women's status, access to education, health and the means of family planning — not only improve the quality of life, but are also the best and quickest way to reduce the population growth rates. By opening up options in the present, they open up options for the future."

The report argues that investment in human resources provides a firm base for rapid economic development, could have a significant impact on the environment crisis and is essential for global security. However, in the past it has often commanded a lower priority than industry, agriculture, or military expenditure.

"It is time for a new scale of priorities: there is no other sphere of development where investment can make such a large contribution to the options and quality of life, both in the present and in the future.

"At the start of the 1990s the choice must be to act decisively to slow population growth, attack poverty and protect the environment. The alternative is to hand on to our children a poisoned inheritance," the report says.

SITE OF THE MONTH

Environment

A critical balance

ON THE edge of the charming university town of Peos, in southern Hungary, two huge thermal-power stations stand shoulder to shoulder. Both burn polluting brown coal to produce electricity for this energy-hungry part of the country. Yet the contrast between the two plants is stark. The main stack on one plant belches out clouds of black smoke; the stack of the other emits next to nothing. The clean plant has been fitted with an efficient Swiss filter, which removes most particles and dust; the other has no pollution controls at all.

Hungary, like the rest of Eastern Europe, finds itself in the middle of convulsive changes. Behind the dramatic and sudden political, economic and social shifts sweeping through middle Europe looms the grim legacy of 40 years of resource exploitation and environmental neglect.

The region is scarred by ruined forests and watersheds eaten away by acid rain and other pollutants; rivers and lakes fouled almost beyond recovery by untreated municipal and industrial wastes; croplands contaminated with agricultural poisons and overdoes of fertilizers; and crumbling cities besieged by a virulent assortment of airborne chemicals generated by outdated smokestack industries and vehicles. Worse still, the health of millions of East Europeans has been imperilled by the neglect of basic environmental safeguards in the rush towards industrial growth.

"Where does the destruction of our natural environment end?" laments a member of Poland's Ecological Club. "We are killing our heritage and pillaging our children's future."

The evidence can be seen all over the region.

- The health of 2.6 million people in the Silesian industrial zone in south-west Poland is endangered by industrial fumes. The health of Polish rivers, the Vistula, is so shock full of pollutants that its waters are unfit even for industrial use along 80 per cent of its total length.
- In Hungary every seventeenth death and every twenty-fourth disability is attributed directly or indirectly to air pollution.
- In the Czechoslovakian town of Bratislava, cancers have risen by a third, heart complaints by 40 per cent, infant mortality by two-thirds and miscarriages by half since 1970, due to deadly air pollutants from nearby industries.

● In just one year, 1986, over 88,000 children and 63,000 adults in the Romanian town of Giurgiu were treated for lung diseases brought on by rampant air pollution.

Birth rates in East Europe have stagnated for 30 years, despite a widespread lack of family planning services. Hungary's population is actually falling by about 7,000 a year, according to this year's State of World Population Report from the United Nations Population Fund.

Birth rates are low all over the industrialised world. But the explanation in affluent Western Europe has been that children are expensive and parents have other things to do with their money. For East Europe, continued low birth rates might be an expression of deep pessimism about the future, a pessimism brought on partly by polluted air and polluted water, vanishing forests and crumbling towns.

East Europe has a hard road ahead. In attempts to modernise their stumbling economies, environmentalists fear that the new governments in Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Romania and East Germany may succumb to short-cuts, leaving environmental protection

unattended.

Despite the proliferation of "green movements" in Eastern Europe over the past two years — there are now over 200 of them in Poland alone — the majority remain outside the mainstream of political change. There is also a real possibility that green movements will be splintered by the political parties that are beginning to take from across the landscape of this region, points out Dr Frank Carter, a geographer at University College, London. Hopefully some of them at least will be receptive to green pressure.

That may be over-optimistic. If the history of industrialisation in the West is any yardstick, then Eastern Europe is in for a period of restructuring that will still see high pollution levels and a further deterioration for the environment.

One green activist, who is determined not to let this happen, is Janos Varga, co-founder of the Danube Circle and one of Hungary's most outspoken environmentalists. He led the coalition of citizens' action committees and green group which successfully halted the construction of two controversial dams on the Danube. "No matter which political party is in power in this country, they will have to listen to us," says Varga.

Young people, angry at what their parents have wrought, may be the counter-balance to rapid — and polluting — industrial development. "We are insisting that economic growth be tempered by improvements in our health and living standards," insists a member of Czechoslovakia's Civic Forum.

Public health services, and family planning in particular, have been neglected. Abortion, the last resort in more fortunate countries, has become the substitute for family planning in much of Eastern Europe. The situation was probably worst in Romania under the Ceausescu regime, where family planning was banned entirely. Women were examined regularly for signs of pregnancy and were forced to go through with it whether they wanted to or not. Elsewhere in East Europe, though family planning was legal, services were hard to find.

A first step in improving public health (and morale) would be to make basic family planning services as easily available as they are in Western Europe.

Not that East Europe suffers from rampant population growth — quite the opposite. East Europe's population problems are of a different kind. As economies are re-arranged, unemployment will be one of the by-products. At the same time, Eastern Europe has a very high proportion of elderly people — almost a quarter of the population are over 60 — and a shrinking base of working-age people to support them. But a curious side-effect of easier contraception might be to encourage a temporary "baby boom" as people are confident of their power to prevent accidental pregnancies take the decision to have the children they want.

For the rest of the world Eastern Europe's environmental and population problems might serve as an object lesson in how not to go about industrial development. Whatever their problems of population growth, developing countries must be hoping to find a better way to ease the pressure. In the meantime, they might do worse than observe what industrialisation can do to a nation's health.

With growing environmental problems and poor family planning services, Eastern Europe's problems mirror those of the developing world. Unless the region can clean up its act, there will be little chance of balancing its future development with the needs of its people.

A crucial balance

The world's population is growing at the rate of three people per second — a quarter of a million people a day. This is faster than ever before. But can the earth's damaged environment carry such numbers into the 1990s and beyond? How can we protect the planet and keep open the options for future generations?

OVERTHOING THE MARK

There are now 5.3 billion people in the world. Recent predictions that global population would stabilize at around 10 billion now seem too low — 11 billion seems more likely. And if the use of family planning does not increase as expected the world could be headed for a total of 14 billion.



RACE AGAINST RESOURCES

FOOD PRODUCTION is not keeping pace with population growth. Per capita food production fell in 25 out of 43 African countries in 1987-88 and in 17 out of 23 in Latin America.

● firstly, a shift to cleaner technologies, energy efficiency and resources conservation by all countries, but especially the richer quarter of the world's population;

● secondly, a direct and all-out attack on poverty itself;

● thirdly, it demands reductions in overall rates of population growth; "reducing population growth, especially in the countries with the highest rates of growth, will be a crucial part of any strategy of sustainable development," the report says.

"The quality of human life is inseparable from the quality of the environment. It is increasingly clear that both are inseparable from the question of human numbers and concentrations. One of the clearest lessons of the last two decades of work in population is that investments in human resource development — for example, improvements in women's status, access to education, health and the means of family planning — not only improve the quality of life, but are also the best and quickest way to reduce the population growth rates. By opening up options in the present, they open up options for the future."

The report argues that investment in human resources provides a firm base for rapid economic development, could have a significant impact on the environment crisis and is essential for global security.

However, in the past it has often commanded a lower priority than industry, agriculture, or military expenditure.

"It is time for a new scale of priorities:

there is no other sphere of development where investment can make such a large contribution to the options and quality of life, both in the present and in the future.

"At the start of the 1990s the choice must be to act decisively to slow population growth, attack poverty and protect the environment. The alternative is to hand on to our children a poisoned inheritance," the report says.

The report says that developing countries are also doing their best to increase their share of industrial production and

consumption. Their share of industrial pollution is rising, and will continue to rise.

Developed or developing, the more people there are, the more pollution; at any level of

development larger numbers consume more resources and produce more waste, according to the report.

The report states that redressing the balance demands action in three major areas:

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● secondly, a direct and all-out attack on poverty itself;

● thirdly, it demands reductions in overall rates of population growth; "reducing population growth, especially in the countries with the highest rates of growth, will be a crucial part of any strategy of sustainable development," the report says.

"The quality of human life is inseparable from the quality of the environment. It is increasingly clear that both are inseparable from the question of human numbers and concentrations. One of the clearest lessons of the last two decades of work in population is that investments in human resource development — for example, improvements in women's status, access to education, health and the means of family planning — not only improve the quality of life, but are also the best and quickest way to reduce the population growth rates. By opening up options in the present, they open up options for the future."

The report argues that investment in human resources provides a firm base for rapid economic development, could have a significant impact on the environment crisis and is essential for global security.

However, in the past it has often commanded a lower priority than industry, agriculture, or military expenditure.

"It is time for a new scale of priorities:

there is no other sphere of development where investment can make such a large contribution to the options and quality of life, both in



Pushing the limits: "The quality of human life is inseparable from the quality of the environment", says this year's State of World Population Report. But the quality of life for future generations depends on us. To keep their options open we must reduce population growth - and protect our planet.

Illustration: Korky Paul

IS THERE NO WAY OUT?

Women at the centre



Poor uneducated women have most children and the heaviest workload. Improving the rights of women is crucial if family planning programmes are to succeed.

Unless women have control over their own lives and fertility, family planning goals will not be reached — and environmental damage will hit danger level, says this year's State of World Population Report from the United Nations Population Fund. But there are major obstacles that get between women and their human rights.

Sandra Necchi talks to a woman in Brazil who has planned her life and family — on her own terms.

A woman's choice

MARILENE DE FREITAS is a strong-minded woman living in the Baxada Fluminense, a working-class suburb of Rio de Janeiro. She has been a hotel receptionist and a demonstrator of products in a department store.

At the age of 35, however, she finds it harder to get employment. Brazilian employers are partial to younger — and childless — women. Many women her age have the supposed security of marriage. Marilene, however, has deliberately chosen to remain a single mother, bringing up her two sons, Denis, 11, and Marcos, four. And she has started up a group of neighbourhood women who meet to discuss the highly controversial issue of pregnancy, sex, and birth control.

Marilene appears conventional. She likes to dress well and never leaves the house without make-up. But looks can deceive. Marilene has a frankness and originality that often gets her into trouble — especially with her family, who view her as something of a rebel.

"My parents had always assumed that I would marry and have several children," she explains. "My mother had nine. Her mother had ten. At 17, I saw three girlfriends marry and start large families. By the time I was 20, my sister and all my friends were married or were about to be married. Today, all of them have at least four children and a few have more. My cousin, for example, has nine children. She is younger than I, but looks like 30. One day she told me why she had so many children. 'To keep my husband,' she said. 'I have nothing else in life.'"

At this point Marilene's voice rises in irritation. "I don't like to see her very often because she makes me angry. I know I should have more understanding, but I hate this ignorance. I grew up in it. I knew nothing about sex until the first time I was with a man. It took a long time to forgive my mother for never telling me."

She pauses, runs her painted fingernails through her dark curling hair. "I always loved children, of course. But early in life I knew I wanted to be more than a mother. I wanted time for myself, to work, to learn about the world, to enjoy life as I could."

"Anyway, I got to learn about family planning after seeing commercials on television a few years ago. Then I heard that they were running a free class at the women's health centre in Rio, and decided to go. My father said that

if I went I would become as bad as a prostitute. I told him that he had raised me to be ignorant and I had to undo the damage he had done. He slapped my face. But, I went anyway."

"At the class we learned about different methods of birth control. I learned that the women who had most children were the poorest and least educated. And I learned about the rate of illness and death among women in Brazil who knew little about contraception or health care during pregnancy. It was then that I decided to try and start a group here with my neighbours where we could at least talk about these issues."

Marilene's independence has its price. She cannot live in the more spacious family home — as her brothers do. Instead she shares cramped quarters in a shanty-town dwelling with her children.

Four-year-old Marcos comes into the room — and then goes out again to play with his brother and their pet rabbit in the yard. "My first son was not planned," explains Marilene. "But my second was. Raising children is never easy when you are poor. But as I am single and there are only two of them I can give them plenty of care and attention. My boys do not have distended stomachs, bad teeth or diarrhoea like so many children around here."

"My family and my friends still tell me I should marry so my two boys can have a father and that I should have a daughter. I reply that they should use birth-control, that they should think of the costs, not just financial but physical and psychological of raising so many children. But people are so fixed in their attitudes. A man who lives near me, an old boyfriend, wants to live with me and is determined to have a child with me. Last week another man — someone I think of as a friend only — asked me to marry him so that we could have children together. I told him two was enough for me. He said that was why everyone thought I was 'loose'."

She leans forward, her green eyes brightening. "The truth is, I am really better off as I am — with a small family. I have continued to work at the women's centre and they sometimes pay me to work there as a teacher. They urged me to complete my high school education and I finished last year. I see my life as independent — I raise my children as I wish. I now want to take a computer course and am arranging childcare for my boys so that I can study."

Pushing the limits

Paul Harrison explains how better family planning can reduce the effects of global warming and keep open the options for the future.

THE 1990s will see the fastest growth in human numbers in all history. At present the world's population is increasing by three people a second — about a quarter of a million every day. Some 96 million people — an extra Thailand and Korea — will be added every year; a whole extra China over the decade.

Just a few years ago, it seemed as if the rate of growth was slowing almost everywhere. The world's population seemed set to stabilise around 10.2 billion towards the end of the next century.

The situation now looks less promising, as the State of World Population 1990, just published by the United Nations Population Fund, reveals.

Progress in reducing birth rates was slower than expected. Countries which had substantially reduced their birth rates in the late 1960s and early 1970s, stalled in their progress. And in some countries birth rates actually rose in the two decades up to 1980-85.

These setbacks forced the United Nations to reassess the population outlook. In 1986, it projected that the world would house 6.12 billion people by the end of the century. Now it has had to raise that figure to 6.251 million — an extra Japan added to the total. Looking further ahead, to 2025, the UN now expects 8.467 million people — 200 million more than it predicted five years ago.

The world is now on course for reaching a stable population, sometime towards the end of the next century, of closer to 11 billion than 10 billion. Indeed, if future progress in cutting birth rates is not achieved we would be headed towards a total of up to 14 billion people.

This is serious — especially in view of a world food crisis which is creeping upon us unnoticed. During the 1980s, food production has lost ground to population in many countries. In Africa, 25 countries out of 43 experienced a drop in per capita cereal production. And Latin America's performance was even worse: 17 countries out of 23 suffered a decline.

Today, the global food situation looks shakier than at any time in the past 15 years. We can no longer rely on automatic harvest increases every year. World food security depends on the performance of North American farmers, and that depends on a global weather system that is increasingly unstable. Following the drought-hit US harvest of 1988, world cereal stocks dropped from 24 per cent of global consumption in 1986-87 to 20.2 per cent by 1988-89. Meanwhile, many countries are running out of reserves of good cropland. The best and most accessible land is already in use. As a result the area of land available per person declined at the rate of 1.9 per cent during the 1980s.

The human race now appears to be pushing against new limits of growth. Our numbers, our lifestyles and our technologies have reached the stage where destruction of the environment has reached dangerous levels. We are saving through the branch that is holding us and if we carry on as before, it may break and bring us crashing down with it.

Not everyone admits that population plays any role in environmental damage. Soil erosion is often blamed on the poverty of the South, while damage to tropical forests, oceans and climate are laid at the door of affluence in the North.

The real situation is more complex. Two factors may decide how much damage we do per person to our environment. One is our lifestyle

and how much we consume. The other is the kind of technology we use and how much damage it waste it creates. But population decides how many persons there are — and that is what fixes the total level of damage.

Population growth is responsible for a far greater share of deforestation, for example, than commercial logging or ranching. Much of the forest cleared in developing countries becomes cropland for growing populations that cannot be accommodated on existing farmland. These populations may be responsible for more than 85 per cent of the loss of forest cover.

Of course poverty is partly to blame for soil erosion: poor peasants cannot afford fertilisers or conservation measures needed for protecting the soil. But population growth has its own effect, forcing farmers to exhaust the soil, or to use marginal land. And unchecked soil erosion could cause a drop of nearly 30 per cent in food production from rain-fed cropland. It is clearly a direct threat to human life in developing countries.

Climate change is a threat to human life across the globe. The numbers that threat is now well known. Most projections expect that by the middle of the next century average world temperatures will rise by up to 2.8 degrees Celsius. No previous climate shift in earth history has happened so swiftly.

As ecological zones shift, the area of forest cover will decline. Sea-level rises could lead to disastrous flooding of many ports and deltas, displacing, for example, as much as 10 per cent of Bangladesh's population or 16 per cent of Egypt's. Rainfall in mid-latitudes may decrease, hitting

State of world population 1990

Overheated globe

Population growth and industrial pollution are doing increasing damage to the environment. If both continue to grow unchecked, the effects could be catastrophic.

WARMING

• By the middle of the next century average world temperatures will rise by 1.5-2.8 degrees C. The world will be hotter than at any time during the previous 120,000 years.

• Melting ice and thermal expansion may cause the sea level to rise by up to 70cm by the middle of the 21st century, causing serious flooding in low-lying areas. A 50-centimetre-level rise would displace 16% of Egypt's population. Most of the Republic of the Maldives would disappear — the islands' highest point is less than 2 metres above sea level.

GREENHOUSE GASES

Five gases are responsible for the bulk of global warming. The faster population grows the hotter the world will get.

LOW LEVEL OZONE produced by car exhausts, accounts for 8% of global warming.

CHLOROFUOROCARBONS account for 20% of warming. Used in refrigeration and air conditioning, aerosols, packaging.

NITROUS OXIDE emitted by human decomposing rapidly after forest clearance and by the breakdown of nitrogen fertilisers.

METHANE accounts for 15% of the warming after. Two-thirds of emissions are from human-made sources. Half of these come from decomposition in irrigated land and from the guts of livestock.

CARBON DIOXIDE is responsible for around half of global warming, caused by the burning of forests and fossil fuels.

Grapher: Clive Offley

THE GREAT POLLUTERS

Industrialized countries do most damage to the environment ...

• Industrialized countries account for 5/6 of world CFC use and 3.4 of fossil fuel use.

• The average person in the industrialized world adds 3.2 tonnes of carbon each year to the atmosphere — almost four times the level added by the average Third World resident.

• Pollution in the Kielce region of Poland has rendered edible 90% fruits and vegetables. In Hungary one in 17 people dies from pollution.

But developing countries are catching up ...

• Annual carbon dioxide output from the destruction of forests, occurring mainly in the Third World, almost trebled between 1950 and 1980-85. And by 2025 developing countries will be emitting 16.5 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide annually — three times their present level.

• Emissions from industrialisation in Asia rose 10-fold between 1950 and 1980-85.

• The number of cars in the world is set to grow from 400 million today to 700 million over the next 20 years. Much of that growth will be in developing world which currently owns only 12% of the global car fleet.

OPTIONS

Keeping open the options for the future is only possible if we:

• Shift from fossil fuels (currently supplying 75% of world energy needs) to renewable sources such as wind, geothermal and solar.

• Slow down population growth by 25%.

recycling. Changes in technology will include improvements in energy efficiency and efforts to conserve soil. There must be a halting and a reversal of deforestation.

But population is part of every equation. And reducing population growth makes very considerable contribution.

The United Nations has made a "low" projection of future population, based on what would happen if birth rates declined faster. On this projection there would be only 7,590 million people in the world by the year 2025 — 876 million fewer than the more likely medium projection.

If this low projection could be achieved, rather than the medium one, it would have the same impact on cutting down carbon dioxide output as halving deforestation. It would reduce pressure on soil and water resources and make it easier to provide improved education and health services.

And it can be done. Many countries, including Tunisia, Sri Lanka, Mexico or Costa Rica, have achieved the kind of birth-rate drops that would be required over the next three decades. A few, like Cuba, or China, have achieved as much in half the time.

To bring this off will demand a new priority for family planning and population programmes to get people interested in smaller families. This must involve improvements in health and education and the status of women.

All of these efforts increase the options of present generations and help to reduce present poverty. Equally important, they keep open options for future generations.

Men for a change

THAI men have long played a central role in their country's family planning effort — as obstacles.

During the 1930s and 1940s in Thailand, under the dictatorship of Plaek Pibulsongkhram, awards were given out on Mother's Day to women with large families. These pro-natalist policies, which held sway for decades, were driven by the notion that a large population was needed to build up military strength.

Only in the early 1970s did things change. The Thai government undertook to reduce the population growth rate by 0.5 percentage points a year. It now became clear that large poverty might be alleviated by reducing family size.

Thousands of village family planning volunteers were mobilised. And the campaign worked: birth-rates more than halved during the course of the next 15 years.

Today, nearly 70 per cent of married couples practice family planning and 95 per cent of couples do not want more than two children. Most cite economic reasons for their choice.

This success has made Thailand a family planning model for other developing countries. But it is women who can take the credit. Men remain a bastion of traditional resistance. In 1987, for example, 68 per cent of women were practising some form of contraception compared with only seven per cent of men.

The figures are skewed towards women — and not only in Thailand — partly because most contraceptive methods are designed for women. Equally important, however, is attitude. Whereas boys are coddled by most Thai parents, girls are taught from a young age to take responsibility. As adults, too, there is little incentive for Thai males to accept responsibility for family planning. Many continue to view family planning as exclusively a woman's concern.

When Thai girls grow up, however, they play a more active economic role in the family and in society as a whole than do their counterparts in many other societies. The main thing Thailand's family planning effort has going for it, according to its chief architect Mechai Virachai, is "the relatively strong personality of the Thai women."

"The men don't get in the way of women. That's probably their most important role," says Mechai. "Even if there were a pill available to men, the women would still use their own pill because they wouldn't trust the men to use theirs."

It's tempting simply to write off family planning campaigns aimed at men and to direct resources at women, where they can be more effective. But this year's State of

World Population Report, just released by the United Nations Population Fund, states quite clearly that more men must get involved in family planning if population growth is not to overwhelm the earth's resources. For world population to stabilise at 11 billion by the end of the next century, contraceptive use will have to increase worldwide by 64 per cent within the next 10 years. This will only be possible if men take a more responsible attitude.

Even Thailand, with its dramatically reduced birth-rate, has an extra one million new mouths to feed each year. And the number of women of reproductive age will increase from seven million to ten million over the next few years.

However, Thai family planning agencies are already faced a shortage of contraceptive materials and other resources.

This is why, despite a massive programme of acceptance of all forms of vasectomy or male sterilisation — it has been promoted. Vasectomy takes 15 minutes, costs half as much as female sterilisation — and is less likely to cause side-effects.

Mechai has already given Thailand a certain notoriety by staging a mass vasectomy fair each year on the birthday of Thailand's king. In 1987, a record was set when more than 2,000 men showed up at a field next to the royal palace for the free operation.

Despite the fanfare, however, far fewer men than women opt to be sterilised. The total number of men sterilised in 1987 was 16,447. The figure for women that year was close to 140,000.

"Men don't do it (have a vasectomy) because they're not men," says Palamai Bhiromut, the Ministry of Public Health's senior family planning promotion specialist.

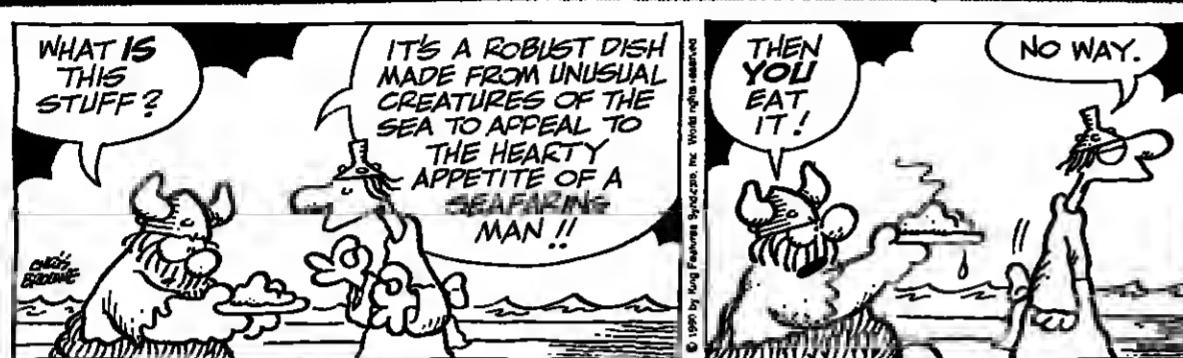
Communication is another problem. Women can find out about female sterilisation during pregnancy from medical personnel or village midwives. But men retain their traditional attitudes and superstitions. A recent survey in Thailand's northeast showed that men were worried about rumoured links between the operation and impotence, poor health and work disability.

Now the Thai Association for Voluntary Sterilisation is seeking to remove some of these prejudices and to enlighten men. One thing they have discovered is that men need support to go ahead with the operation — and not have second thoughts about it later. Most who had the operation were influenced by people they respected or trusted, like community leaders or friends or entertainers who had had the operation themselves. "Men should be motivated to like birth control," the

BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE — By Dik Browne



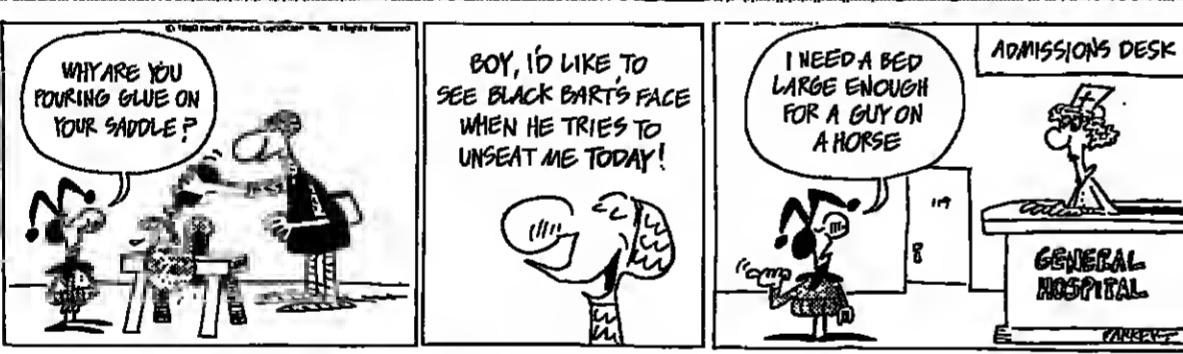
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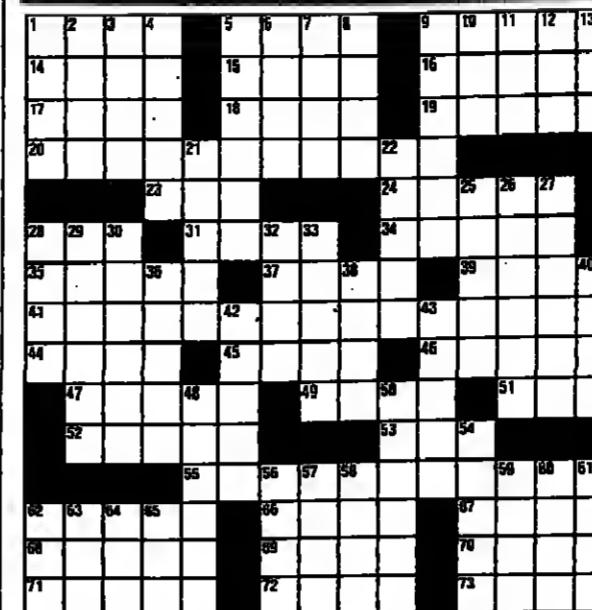
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55 Patriotic purchase: 1915-20
62 Ermina
66 Newspaper notice, for short
67 Theater award
68 Dutch cheese
69 Neck part
70 Not a soul
71 Ubiquitous bags
72 Something unique
73 Soma votes

DOWN

1 October birthstone
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6 West Point team
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9 Trendy
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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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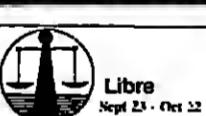
YOUR STARS



Make sure that your eyes are not larger than your stomach. Try to see reason and do not allow your emotions to run away with you. Do not put all your money on one horse. Be moderate.



Adopt a diet which does not entail becoming too fat or thin. Your financial position is not all you would like it to be and your expenditure needs to be curbed. Make sure you do not lose sight of your objectives. Be sincere.



Avoid confusing what is with what you would like to be. Leave yourself with more room for manoeuvre and take other people's views into account before deciding on what to do. Do not neglect your personal appearance. Be generous.



However old you are try not to lose your sense of wonder and preserve an element of adventurousness. Take care you do not jump to conclusions and do not act on impulse. Do not permit your attention to be diverted from what you are engaged upon.



Something you had expected to happen will not and you will have to make a few adjustments accordingly. Do all you can to ensure that harmony with your partner is maintained. Take no risks with your health or safety. Be sensible.



Try to look beneath the surface, not all is what it appears to be. You should think once again before making up your mind. Remember that there just is not time to do everything you would like to do, so choose carefully. Be frank.



You are liable to feel listless, so try to pull yourself up by your bootstraps. Do not spend so much time trying to prove how much cleverer you are than others; if you are it will show. Also think more of others, less of yourself. Be reliable.



A little more goodwill will enable you to avoid getting into an argument. Do not spend so much time trying to prove how much cleverer you are than others; if you are it will show. Also think more of others, less of yourself. Be reliable.



You must avoid believing that what you would like to be is you are all too likely to chase phantoms and should try to look on the practical side. Do not do anything that would obviously be bad for your health. Be tactful.



Now is a good time to make a few changes but do deliberate upon them carefully first. There is no point in changing just for the sake of something new and different. Mistakes are more likely, made by others as well as you, and you should be on the lookout for them.



You will be able to do what you enjoy doing but must not entirely neglect what you do not. Your lucky numbers are 14 and 27. You are all too liable to lose things and must do your best to combat the tendency. And do give others their due. Be pertinent.



You are too old for some things, but not by any means for all things — unless you think you are. You should have the courage of your convictions, but should also have the liability to change your opinions. And do give others their due. Be pertinent.



"I can hear the sea!"



"I can't read your writing!"

SCREEN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
A MATTER OF LOGIC

East-West vulnerable. South taken by the ace. Declarer's initial plan was to draw two rounds of trumps and, if the queen did not drop, abandon trumps in favor of trying to get two quick discards on the spade suit. So he cashed the king and ace of trumps, but had to go back to the drawing board when East discarded a club on the second round.

Now it would no longer help if three rounds of spades went through. West would be able to ruff the fourth round with a low trump and the queen of trumps would be the setting trick.

If the slam was going to succeed, West would have to hold four spades! Once declarer came to that conclusion, the rest was easy.

Declarer cashed the king of spades and ran the ten! When East showed out on the second round, it was all over. Dummy was entered with the ace of clubs and two diamonds were discarded on the ace and queen of spades as West followed helplessly. Declarer came to hand with a club ruffed high, forced out the queen of hearts, ruffed the return, drew the last trump and claimed a beautifully played slam.

No compound squeeze, no Devil's Coup, no Winkle. Just sheer poetry.

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I. RAGHBIR SINGH, holder of Indian passport No. A 850903 hereby change my name to Raghbir Singh Sehra. (AT-53436-2)

I. SANTOKH SINGH, holder of Indian passport No. U 248657 hereby change my name to Santokh Singh Basu. (AT-53435-2)

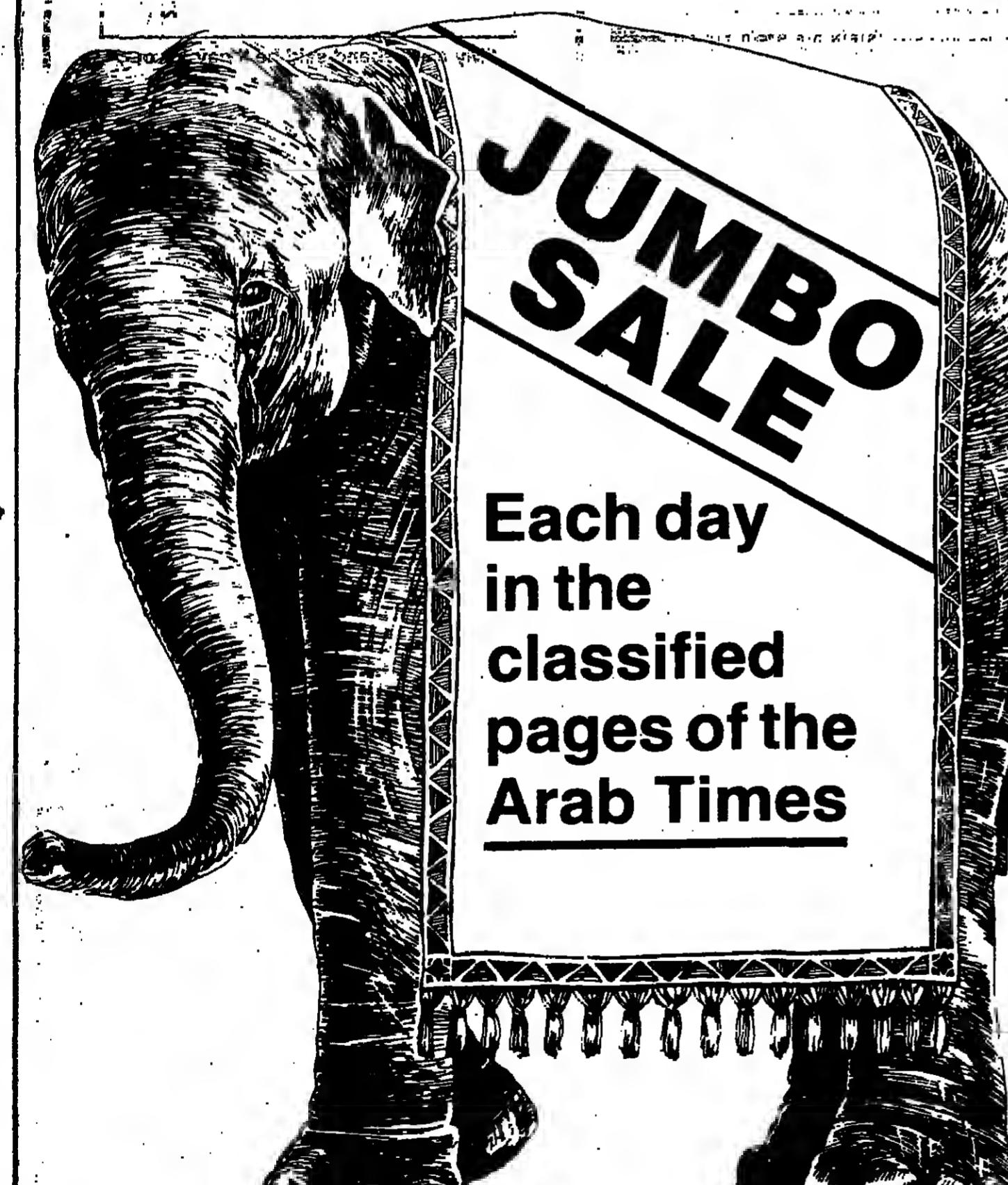
1

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1

ARAB TIMES NEWS IS OUR BUSINESS



ARAB TIMES NEWS IS OUR BUSINESS

Argentines turn to superstition for victory over West Germany

BUENOS AIRES, July 6. (Reuter): Not content with the conviction that God is on their side, Argentines are relying on superstitious rituals to ensure their team's victory in Sunday's World Cup soccer final against West Germany.

Superstition among sportsmen —

from using good luck charms to not shaving — is notorious. But even President Carlos Menem admits to having his rituals.

"I always wear the same tie and the same clothes," said Menem after Tuesday's semifinal penalty shoot-out victory over Italy.

Since returning from Italy where he watched Argentina's opening game, in which the title holders lost 1-0 to Cameroon, Menem has followed the matches on a giant screen in the Casa Rosada (Pink House) Government House.

In a suburb of Buenos Aires an

embarrassed housewife, who admitted to her ritual on condition she was not named, described her pre-match antics.

"I always walk twice clockwise and twice anti-clockwise around my chair before the start of a game."

Most Argentines admit their team,

which won the World Cup in Mexico four years ago and as hosts in 1978, have had their share of luck in Italy, particularly in the 1-0 win over Brazil.

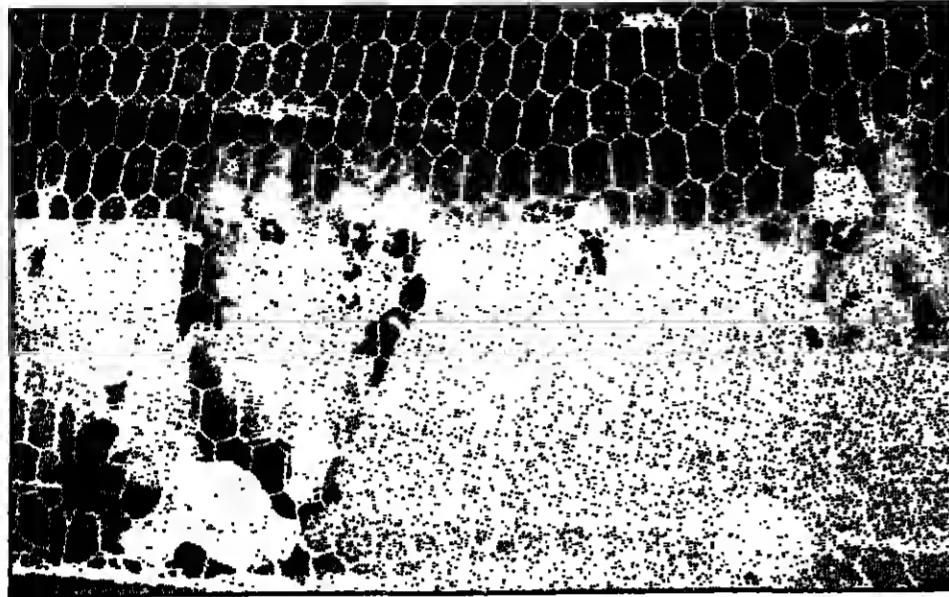
After that match newspapers ran banner headlines proclaiming "God is an Argentine," recalling that it was the "Mano de Dios" (Hand of God)

which enabled captain Diego Maradona to score the disputed goal in the 2-1 win over England in the 1986 quarterfinals.

The staunchly Roman Catholic Argentines often invoke their favourite saints to help their team's

efforts.

Effigies of the Virgin Mary are placed on top of TV sets alongside those of Cefelino Namuncura, the son of an Indian chieftain who embraced Catholicism in the 19th century and has a saint-like status among the Argentine poor.



Shilton lies on his back as he watches the ball roll into the net. (Reuter wirephoto)



Ligner makes a save from a shot by England's Stuart Pearce. (Reuter wirephoto)



Linkecker kicks the ball past W. Germany's Thomas Haessler for the equalizer. (Reuter wirephoto)

Maradona involved in scuffle

TRIGORIA, Italy, July 6. (Reuter): Diego Maradona, who leads Argentina against West Germany in Sunday's World Cup final, was involved in a scuffle with security officials outside his team's training camp, police said today.

They said the clash took place at the gate of the camp after Maradona's younger brother Raul was stopped in a sports car by police and failed to produce identity papers.

Raul took one of the Argentine captain's two Ferraris out for a spin late yesterday evening, but he was stopped by officers in a patrol car who said he was carrying neither driving licence nor identification.

Raul was escorted back to the camp, where Diego Maradona's wife Claudia Villafane vouched for his identity.

Witnesses said punches were thrown in the scuffle which broke out between Maradona and several of his relations on the one hand and camp security officials on the other.

The trouble followed accusations that Raul had been stopped out of an Italian desire for revenge for being knocked out of the World Cup by Argentina, they added.

A police spokesman said two security officials suffered slight arm injuries in the scuffle, but no charges would be brought.

England seek 3rd place

Italians also want to win



England's Mark Wright trips West Germany's Juergen Klinsmann during Wednesday's game. (Reuter wirephoto)

BARI, July 6. (Reuter): Sunday's World Cup final may be the focus of attention but neither England manager Bobby Robson nor his Italian counterpart Azeglio Vicini are taking their third-place playoff lightly.

Robson wants victory tomorrow as a send-off present before he leaves the England hot seat to take charge of Dutch club PSV Eindhoven.

Vicini wants it to maintain Italy's tournament record of being unbeaten in regulation time and to highlight the quirk of fate which put both teams into the playoff instead of the final.

Italy, three times champions, and England, who won in 1966, were both beaten in the semifinals on penalty shootouts after extra time against Argentina and West Germany respectively ended in draws.

"We want to win at all costs," said striker Aldo Serena, one of the two Italians who missed from the penalty spot in the semifinals.

Vicini, who will stay with Italy at least until the 1992 European Championship, said: "We want this victory."

But he admitted his squad, depressed at the semifinal outcome, were still trying to find the motivation for tomorrow's match in Bari.

"I think the application and the determination will be there — maybe the enthusiasm is lacking at the moment but I hope it will be there."

One man determined to play, despite suffering a groin strain against Argentina, is striker Salvator Schillaci who hopes to console himself with the title of leading goalscorer of the finals.

"I hope we can finish well against England," said Schillaci who is also nursing a badly bruised and grazed arm after a clash with the Argentine defence. "I am going to try to play whatever happens."

England, who had never before reached the semifinals on foreign soil, will have to do without the talented Paul Gascoigne, suspended for one match after collecting two bookings.

"It is a real shame for Gazza that he is out," Robson said. "In my opinion he has been the best young player of the World Cup, one of the revelations."

Robson said he would field the strongest side possible.

Probable teams:

Italy — Walter Zenga; Franco Baresi, Giuseppe Bergomi, Paolo Maldini, Riccardo Ferri, Roberto Donadoni, Fernando de Napoli, Giuseppe Giannini or Carlo Ancelotti, Luigi de Agostini or Nicola Berti; Roberto Baggio, Salvatore Schillaci or Gianluca Vialli.

England — Peter Shilton; Mark Wright or Paul Parker, Gary Stevens or Paul Parker, Terry Butcher, Des Walker, Stuart Pearce; David Platt, Steve McMahon, Chris Waddle; Gary Lineker, Peter Beardsley.

Referee — Joel Quiniou (France)

Kickoff — Saturday 9.00pm (Kuwait time)



Gascoigne kisses his shirt after Lineker equalizes. (Reuter wirephoto)



W. Germans seek revenge



Brehme (centre) leaps into the arms of Illiger. (Reuter wirephoto)

TURIN, July 6. (Reuter): West Germany, runners-up in the last two tournaments, aim to turn the tables on 1986 conquerors Argentina in Sunday's World Cup final in Rome after riding their luck in a penalty shoot-out with England.

The West Germans survived a severe test by England on Wednesday when they won 4-3 penalties after a 1-1 extra time deadlock to become the first nation to contest three straight finals.

The scoreline matched Argentina's surprise defeat of hosts Italy in the other semifinal in Naples on Tuesday and gave the West Germans the chance to avenge their 3-2 defeat by the South Americans in the 1986 final in Mexico City.

It propelled the West Germans into their sixth final in the last 10 World Cups, a remarkable record run which started with victory over Hungary in 1954 and was highlighted by the 1974 triumph on home soil by the side led by their present team chief Franz Beckenbauer.

The sequence included a 4-2 defeat in the 1966 final by England, whose 1990 successors were unlucky to be denied in Turin's Stadio Delle Alpi.

Goalkeeper Bodo Illiger, beaten by the first England spot kicks, emerged as the West German hero by saving the fourth from Stuart Pearce before Chris Waddle ballooned over the fifth.

Bodo Illiger would prefer not to have to show his prowess in another sudden-death duel on Sunday.

"We don't want penalties in the final. I hope we can do it in normal time," he said.

Yogi Berra has smiled on West Germany in all their previous World Cup campaigns with victories in shootouts in their last three journeys to the final.

They ousted France in the first World Cup penalty duel in the 1982 "thriller" in Sevilla's semifinal in Spain and repeated the trick against hosts Mexico in the quarterfinals four years later.

"I'm delighted we've made the final, whether it's through penalties or not," said Guido Buchwald, who nearly made the shoot-out unnecessary when he struck the post two minutes from the end of extra-time.

England were also denied by the woodwork when Waddle, served on the left by a neat Trevor Steven header, blazed a left-foot shot against the far post just before the turn-round in extra-time.

Gary Lineker, whose two goals from the penalty spot saved England in their quarterfinal against Cameroon, gave England the lifeline they deserved when he pounced in the area after a Paul Parker cross and scored in the 81st minute.

Andreas Brehme took a deflection off Parker and soared over veteran England goalkeeper Peter Shilton.

West Germany were the dominant force in extra-time but were otherwise matched in spirit and endeavour by England, for whom Paul Gascoigne was outstanding in midfield.

fit to face Argentina.

Beckenbauer said he would not underestimate Argentina despite their loss of four key players through suspension.

"I hope Sunday's game will be good as tonight's. If so it will be a good advertisement for football," he said.

He took away with him the good wishes of England manager Bobby Robson. "All the best, it's your turn to win," Robson told Beckenbauer before they went their separate ways after the match.

Bilardo works on tactics for World Cup final

TRIGORIA, Italy, July 6. (Reuter): Argentine coach Carlos Bilardo yesterday began working out ways to win the World Cup final and ironically could use a West German tactic to do it.

His options are limited, however, by having four first-choice players suspended for Sunday's clash in Rome's Olympic stadium.

"The match with West Germany will be like a game of chess and they already have a piece when we want to play," said Bilardo.

When Argentina won the World Cup in Mexico in 1986, Bilardo played three men at the back and five in midfield with the playmakers on the flanks doubling as full-backs.

The coach said he wanted to replace the flanking midfielders with forwards to inject greater speed into the team as they broke into attack.

He said West German coach Franz Beckenbauer had already used this approach.

"West Germany allow greater freedom in midfield," he said, suggesting he might copy their method.

Bilardo has complained about not having had enough time with his players before the tournament to refine strategy and the absence of key players could be a deciding factor in the re-run of the 1986 final.

Bilardo said replacements are available and there were no injury problems but the new players were short of match practice.

Bilardo made an unprecedented five changes after the shock defeat by Cameroon in the opening match but gave no indication of the changes he will make for Sunday's match.

When Argentina beat Italy 4-3 on penalties in Tuesday's semifinal, after the match ended 1-1, three Argentine players were booked for the second time in the tournament and one, Ricardo Giusti, was sent off.

Striker Claudio Caniggia, who scored the equaliser against Italy, and 1986 veterans Giusti, Sergio Batista and Julio Olarticoechea are automatically suspended.

West Germany reached their third successive final by beating England 4-3 on penalties in Turin on Wednesday night after drawing 1-1.

José Serrizuela, who has been playing as a stopper, is another candidate for midfield.

Serrizuela, aged 28 and captain of Argentina's River Plate, has only seven caps but is experienced at top club level.

Team doctor Raul Madero said Jorge Burruchaga and captain Diego Maradona would have time to recover from muscle

aches after playing two successive matches that went to extra time.

■ Maradona has asked Italians to forgive him for ending their World Cup dream.

Maradona told reporters: "I don't want to be an enemy. I ask all Italians to forgive me and I ask for understanding."

"Behind me was my country. I had to win."

Maradona, who has taken Napoli to two League titles, added: "I know how much Italy loves its national side and I know that millions of people must have suffered a lot. I am really sorry."

Maradona angered Italians before the semifinal match by exhorting Neapolitans to cheer for him instead of Italy.

He tried to exploit both his god-like status in the poor southern port city and Neapolitan resentment against the rich north.

After the semifinal defeat, which sent soccer-mad Italians into national mourning, hooligans threw stones at his Naples house, breaking windows. They fled when the police arrived.

■ The pairing of Argentina and West Germany in the World Cup final has undermined the reputation of Italy's wizards.

Before the tournament began they foresaw a final between Italy and champions Argentina. The two countries met in

one of the semifinals, Argentina winning a penalty shoot-out.

Three organisations grouping most of Italy's soothsayers — the European Professional Association of Wizards, the European Astrological Association and the Italian Association of Wizards — were also wrong in predicting that the Soviet Union and Brazil would reach the last four.

England and West Germany contested the other semifinal.

■ Chancellor Helmut Kohl will watch West Germany play Argentina in Sunday's World Cup final in Rome. That's the fourth time in a row.

The bad news is that he also watched West Germany's defeat by Argentina in the 1986 final in Mexico City.

"We're not superstitious. We're really not superstitious. We're cordially welcome, but if he feels like reconsidering..." West German team chief Frank Beckenbauer said with a smile.

■ The fourth of July was celebrated on the fifth of July in Rome on Thursday to avoid a clash with the World Cup.

US ambassador Peter Secchia delayed his Independence Day reception by 24 hours so guests would not miss Wednesday's semifinal in Turin, in which West Germany beat England in a penalty shoot-out.

"I'm delighted we've made the final, whether it's through penalties or not," said Guido Buchwald, who nearly made the shoot-out unnecessary when he struck the post two minutes from the end of extra-time.

England were also denied by the woodwork when Waddle, served on the left by a neat Trevor Steven header, blazed a left-foot shot against the far post just before the turn-round in extra-time.

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West Germany were the dominant force in extra-time but were otherwise matched in spirit and endeavour by England, for whom Paul Gascoigne was outstanding in midfield.



West Germany's Rudi Völler (centre), midfielders Lothar Matthäus (left) and Andreas Brehme have a chat during training in Oggiono. (Reuter wirephoto)



Mexico's Edgardo E. Codesal, Cup referee



Argentine players jump during a practice session at Trigoria ground in preparation for the final against West Germany. (Reuter wirephoto)



Kiwis pay for sending home side in

England batsmen on top

BIRMINGHAM, England, July 6. (Reuters): Graham Gooch was in the thick of a memorable century in the third and final Test at Edgbaston after a decision to send England in to bat backfired on New Zealand captain John Wright yesterday.

At the end of the rain-shortened opening day, Gooch was unbeaten on 95 and England were well-placed with 191 for the loss of only one wicket.

Play was held up until an hour after lunch but then Gooch and Mike Atherton did their best to make up for lost time.

The half-century was on the board in just over 12 overs and together they powered their way to 170 for the opening partnership.

Atherton, again playing with tremendous composure, looked set to score his second century of the series but after he had made 82 he played across a delivery from seamer Martin Snedden and was adjudged leg before.

His 176-ball innings included 12 boundaries and he helped Gooch establish England's highest first wicket partnership for four years.

Gooch was in even more impudent form, also hitting 12 fours and pulling spinner John Bracewell for a six. During the course of his innings, Gooch became only the 11th English batsman to have scored more than 5,000 runs in Test cricket.

Alec Stewart was the other not out batsman at the close with



Wright: unbeaten on 95

eight runs on the board.

Newly-knighted Richard Hadlee, playing in his final Test, had no success, conceding 55 runs from the 18 overs he sent down.

England were forced to make

their first change in the series when seamer Phillip DeFreitas pulled out with a virus infection. Chris Lewis, 12th man for the first two matches, was brought in to make his Test debut.

New Zealand also fielded a debutant with 19-year-old Adam Parore coming in for wicket-keeper Ian Smith who has a hamstring injury.

Wright, celebrating his 36th birthday by winning the toss for the third time in the series, chose to field but the outcome would have been the same had Gooch won.

Team manager Micky Stewart said England would have opted to bat if the choice had been theirs.

"Graham was going to bat if he had won the toss although we didn't quite know what was going to be in the wicket when the covers were rolled away. In this country you expect movement after the covers have been on for some time," Stewart said.

"But the pitch was stiffer than we imagined it would be and the conditions certainly favoured baton."

He praised the positive approach of Gooch and Atherton and said England would attempt to press on in similar vein in an effort to get a minimum of 400 runs quickly to have enough time left to force a series-clinching victory.

Scoreboard

ENGLAND first innings	
G. Gooch not out	95
M. Atherton lbw b Snedden	82
A. Stewart not out	8
Extras (lb-1 nb-5)	6
Total (for nine wickets)	191
Fall of wicket: 1-170	
Bowling: Hadlee 18-2-55-0, Morrison 12-4-48-0, Snedden 14-3-39-1, Bracewell 18-6-48-0.	

To bat: A. Lamb, R. Smith, N. Fairbrother, J. Russell, C. Lewis, G. Small, E. Hammons, D. Malcolm.

■ New Zealand medium-pacer Martin Snedden has announced his retirement from Test cricket.

Snedden, 31, and playing his 25th and final Test against England at Edgbaston, chose to concentrate on his legal practice in Auckland and also to spend more time with his family.

"I've decided I have probably done what I wanted to do and there are other things happening in my life that should be given priority," he said.

He made his Test debut against India in 1980 but struggled to hold a regular place in the New Zealand team until three years ago.

Snedden retires when he is bowling as well as at any stage in his career which has seen him take 54 Test wickets at 38.16 apiece.

With the departure of Hadlee, Snedden's retirement leaves a large gap in New Zealand's seam bowling ranks.

■ West Indies have called off a proposed tour by an England A squad later this year, the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) said yesterday.

A TCCB spokesman said West Indies had notified them that they were unable to host the tour and England had now approached Pakistan to stage an alternative tour there.

England have adopted a policy of organising A tours to give experience to budding Test players.

Azharuddin, Prabhakar bat well

SOUTHAMPTON, England, July 6. (Reuters): Indian captain Mohammad Azharuddin and Manoj Prabhakar each hit half centuries as the touring side gained some valuable batting practice in their rain-hit match against Hampshire yesterday.

The visitors scored 278 for seven before declaring at tea on the second day after the first day's play was washed out by rain. Hampshire were 117 for two at the close.

Azharuddin (74) and Prabhakar (76) shared a fifth-wicket stand of 148 in 36 overs after losing openers Wooker Ramam and Navjot Singh cheaply to 21-year-old West Indian pace bowler Linden Joseph.

Indian batting prodigy Sachin Tendulkar hit four boundaries in a brisk 32 to give a glimpse of his potential before he sliced at a ball from Dutchman Paul-Jan Bakker and was caught.

However Tendulkar was forced to leave the field after Hampshire began their innings when a shot from David Gower hit him in the mouth when he was standing at silly point.

He suffered a cut lip and a loosened tooth and was to see a dentist today.

Gower drove and pulled a series of fours and one huge six to reach an unbeaten 44 at the close.

Scoreboard

INDIA first innings	
W. Ramam c Terry b Joseph	26
N. Sidhu c Terry b Joseph	6
S. Tendulkar c Terry b Bakker	32
D. Vengsarkar c Parkes b Connor	21
M. Azharuddin c Aylings	74
M. Prabhakar c and b Maru	76
N. Manjot not out	14
V. Reju c Parkes b Maru	18
Extras (b-6 lb-3 w-2)	11
Total (for seven wickets, declared)	278
Bowling: Bakker 22-1-84-1; Joseph 10-2-28-2; Connor 14-4-43-1; Aylings 15-2-45-1; Maru 16-4-1-69-2; Fall of wickets: 1-22-2-39-3-78-4-92	
5-240 6-246 7-278	
Did not bat: S. Sharma, A. Kumble, N. Hirwani.	
WILTSHIRE first innings	
P. Terry c Ramam b Prabhakar	5



Azhar (above) and Prabhakar (below) share a partnership of 148. (Reuters wirephoto)



Prabhakar (below) share a partnership of 148. (Reuters wirephoto)

Yankees fined for tampering with Winfield

Barnett and Moxon hit centuries

Kallicharran to quit at end of season

LONDON, July 6. (Reuters): As Graham Gooch and Mike Atherton gave England an excellent start against New Zealand at Edgbaston, two former Test batsmen dominated their championship matches yesterday.

Kim Barnett and Martyn Moxon, captains of Derbyshire and Yorkshire respectively, both scored 123 on a day that belonged to Batsmen.

Barnett scored his century as Derbyshire rattled up 361 for seven in 82 overs against Sussex at Hove, while Moxon and Yorkshire's first championship century of the season — and his own first championship century — was put in by Cowdrey not out on 104.

At the Oval opening batsmen Darren Bicknell and Graham Cowdrey also enjoyed a huge partnership, staying together throughout the 72 overs possible to put on an unbeaten 251 for the first wicket against Northamptonshire, with Bicknell on 131 and Clinton 108.

Barnett's hundred was his 31st first class century for Derbyshire and bettered the county record set by Denis Smith, who retired 38 years ago. Chris Adams chipped in with 91 and Peter Bowler

with 50.

Ashley Metcalfe scored 75 in an opening stand of 175 with Moxon.

Other batsmen in fine form were Mark Benson and Graham Cowdrey of Kent, who shared an unbeaten partnership of 239 as Kent raced to 269 for two against Essex at Maidstone before bad light and rain ended play 50 minutes early.

They came together with the score at 30 for two and Benson, playing his first game for three weeks after breaking a finger, finished unbeaten on 141 with Cowdrey not out on 104.

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Bowler 50, P. Roberts 47; A. Pigeot four for 69) v Sussex.

At the Oval: Surrey 251 for no wicket off 72 overs (D. Bicknell 131 not out, G. Clinton not out 108) v Northamptonshire.

At Swansea: Glamorgan 334 for eight declared in 108 overs (R. Croft 68, M. Maynard 63, N. Cowley 44, V. Richards 41) v Gloucestershire.

At Scarborough: Yorkshire 304 for three off 95 overs (M. Moxon 123, A. Metcalfe 75, P. Rohit 47 not out) v Nottinghamshire.

At Maidstone: Kent 269 for two off 91 overs (M. Benson 141 not out, C. Cowdrey 104 not out) v Essex.

Former West Indian cricket captain Alvin Kallicharran is to retire from cricket after completing his contract with Warwickshire at the end of the season.

"I am not able to carry on playing with injuries at my age," the 41-year-old left-hander said today.

At the Oval: Derbyshire 363 for seven declared in 84.1 overs (K. Barnett 123, C. Adams 91, P.

At Taunton: Somerset 270 in 82 overs (D. Benson 104, G. Cowdrey 104, P. Roberts 50, A. Pigeot four for 69) v Sussex.

press release issued here.

Barnett's Australia II skippered by John Bertrand was the first challenger to win the Cup since the schooner American claimed the trophy from Britain in 1851.

Australia lost the trophy in 1987 when San Diego skipper Dennis Conner sailed Stars and Stripes to victory over Ian Murray's Kookaburra III.

Barnett, chairman of Australia's America's Cup syndicate, said his group would now offer design data and other information to Murray's Cup challenge.

"The America's Cup can only be won with a combination of time, research and development and substantial funding," Barnett said in an announcement in London on Wednesday, according to a

European and British sports officials have said the fans' conduct at the championship would determine whether English clubs would be allowed to compete again in Europe.

Ecstatic Germans rushed into the streets in West Berlin, honking horns, lighting fireworks and waving flags Wednesday night in celebration of their World Cup penalty shootout victory over England and a berth in the final.

Minutes after the 4-3 penalty victory to break a 1-1 draw after extra time in Turin, hundreds of jubilant West Berliners flocked to the city's ritzy Kurfuerstendamm Boulevard, launching fireworks and shouting "Germany wonderful."

"It's a super day for Germany," said Michael Hiodel, a 30-year-old truck driver from West Berlin. "It was a fantastic match, and we played extremely well. I'm certain we can win it all in the finals."

A caravan of cars filled with fans waving German flags drove

up and down the streets, and spectators cheered them on, some pounding on the roofs of cars.

More than an hour later, the boulevard was jammed with cars and traffic was at a standstill as the jubilation continued into the night.

Germans drove through the streets in Frankfurt and Bonn, as well, honking horns in celebration. In downtown Frankfurt, fans hung out of windows and shouted "Deutschland wunderbar," or "Germany wonderful."

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"It's

SPORTS BRIEFS

Brazil honoured

ROME, July 6. (AP): Brazil's 1970 champion, making it the first nation to win the World Cup three times, was named the winner of the Mastercard Greatest Moment Award yesterday. Carlos Alberto, captain of that team, which also included such greats as Pele, Rivelino and Jairzinho, accepted the award, which was voted on by 1,200 members of the media. "This is a great honour for me," he said. "This is a great moment for Brazil football."

1998 tourney

ROME, July 6. (Reuter): France made a formal bid to Fifa yesterday to stage the 1998 World Cup finals, the second country to stake a claim during the 1990 tournament. France's bid, presented by French soccer federation officials to Fifa President Joao Havelange at a reception in Rome, came the day after a similar request by Morocco. Havelange said other bids were expected from Switzerland, Portugal and Brazil.

Formula One

TOKYO, July 6. (Reuter): The Japanese car-maker which supplies engines for the Formula One Grand Prix motor racing team is pulling out of the sport because of rising costs and big company losses. Japan's Fuji Heavy Industries, maker of Subaru cars, said today it would withdraw from Formula One racing after the British Grand Prix on July 15.

Chili injured

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium, July 6. (Reuter): Italian motorcycle rider Pierfrancesco Chili crashed during practice for tomorrow's Belgian 500 CC Grand Prix today, breaking his wrist and hurting his neck. Chili, currently seventh in the world championship standings, was flown to hospital by helicopter where the wrist was put in plaster. A spokesman for his Honda team said the neck injury was not serious.

Knockout system

ZURICH, July 6. (Reuter): Fifa is to think again about the World Cup knockout system, general secretary Sepp Blatter said today. He told the Tages Anzeiger newspaper that the finals had seen a return to what he called the "old European safety-first football." There had been no new trend. "That isn't the purpose of the knockout system," Blatter said.

Two changes

BRISBANE, Australia, July 6. (Reuter): Australia made two changes today to its rugby union team for a one-off Test against the American Eagles here on Sunday. Queenslander Sam Scott-Yours and Anthony Herbert replaced Jeff Miller and centre Paul Cornish who had been included in the team announced earlier this week but failed fitness tests at training.

Cup team

WIMBLEDON, England, July 6. (AP): Jennifer Capriati has been named to the US Federation Cup team, which will seek to defend its title later this month.

Cup players honoured

YAOUNDE, Cameroon, July 6. (AP): President Paul Biya awarded Cameroon's highest civilian honour today to two stars of the national soccer team, and decorated all the players and coaches for their strong showing at the World Cup.

Biya said the team had provided a lesson to Cameroon and all of Africa — "to struggle in unity in order to triumph."

Goalkeeper Thomas Nkono and forward Roger Mills, who came out of retirement at 38 to score four goals in Italy, were named Commanders of the Order of Valor in a ceremony at the presidential palace.

The other players and coaches were named as officers or knights of the Order of Valor or the subordinate order of merit for helping the Indomitable Lions become the first African team to reach the World Cup quarterfinals.

Garrison ends Graf's Wimbledon reign

Edberg shatters Lendl's dream



Edberg raises his arms in victory. (Reuter wirephoto)

midway through the second set.

"He put his aim on this and he tried everything he could do," Edberg said. "He must be feeling a little sad, but I have to do my job, I want to win this one."

"I felt my first serve wasn't hurting him enough," Lendl said. "I felt I didn't move well, I was a half-step slow."

Edberg lost only 20 points in his 15 service games and faced just one break point in the match,

times.

It was not simply Lendl played poorly. Edberg was too good. The Swede continually rocketed service return winners past Lendl and sent unreturnable low returns to the net-rushing Lendl.

Edberg overwhelmed an erratic Lendl with two service breaks in the opening set. After each player held his serve throughout the second set, the

Swede closed out a 7-2 tie-breaker with a pair of service return winners past a shell-shocked Lendl.

"I think now it's pretty sure to be Martina's tournament," said the West German after seeing her game undermined by Garrison's tenacity and newly-discovered poise on the big points.

With the watching Princess Diana wrapped up in blankets in the royal box in an effort to keep out the chill wind, Garrison turned up the heat on Graf by taking the first set, attacking the net at every opportunity.

Graf, chasing her 17th successive win at Wimbledon since her last defeat to Navratilova in the 1987 final, broke Garrison twice in the second set to square the match and, as in her match with third seed Seles, Garrison was forced to draw deep on her reserves of character.

Navratilova had fewer alarms against fourth seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina, winning 6-3 6-4 to reach her ninth Wimbledon final in succession and her 11th in all.

Navratilova's fond hopes of winning a record ninth title will hinge on whether she can halt Garrison's remorseless progress through the draw.

On a blustery centre court Garrison scarcely seemed to notice the difficult conditions or acknowledge the identity of her opponent as she completed a memorable and well-deserved success in two hours and four minutes.

If she manages to win the title on Saturday, Garrison will be the first black women's champion since American Althea Gibson took the singles crown in 1957 and 1958.

After winning the match in perfect fashion with her fourth set, Garrison said she had never played better.

"To beat Monica and Steffi back-to-back definitely makes this my most consistent tournament. To win one more match would be a dream come true," she said.

Graf, uncharitable in defeat, claimed that Garrison had no chance in the final.

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"You can slow her down now," she said. "Now she takes a step back when she misses a shot or loses a point."

Navratilova proved that at 33 she remains a formidable obstacle to the younger generation on her favourite grass surface.

She roared into a 4-0 lead

against a tentative Sabatini, and although the Argentine fought back impressively to 4-3, the match turned in the ninth game.

Sabatini failed to convert six game points on her own serve and Navratilova punished her immediately, seizing a 5-4 lead and serving out for the first set in 37 minutes.



Navratilova gives the thumbs up sign to friends after beating Sabatini. (Reuter wirephoto)



Lendl fails to win the Wimbledon in yet another attempt. (Reuter wirephoto)

Ivanchuk stays on top

MANILA, July 6. (Reuter): Soviet Vassily Ivanchuk kept first place with a draw today and Switzerland's Viktor Korchnoi moved into second spot with his third victory in the Manila chess eliminations for the 1993 World Championship.

Ivanchuk remained in the lead after seven rounds with 5.5 points by drawing with fellow Soviet Boris Gelfand in 22 moves of a Grunfeld defence.

Korchnoi, a Soviet defector who is the second oldest player in the competition, crushed Joel Lautier of France in 34 moves of a Sicilian defence to climb into a three-way tie for second place with five points.

He was tied with Gelfand and another Soviet grandmaster, Alexei Dreev, who defeated Kiril Georgiev of Bulgaria in 46 moves to a Slav defence.

A two-time challenger for the world title against then champion Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union, Korchnoi refused to talk with reporters after the match.

A slight edge in the opening with the white pieces allowed Gelfand to produce a passed pawn, but Ivanchuk used his queen to force the draw and block the path of the pawn.

"The position (became) equal," said Gelfand.

Seven other players were tied to third place with 4.5 points each, including Nick de Firmian of the United States and Nigel Short of Britain, the highest placed Western players in the competition.

Bauer keeps yellow jersey

VITTEL, France, July 6. (AP): Steve Bauer of Canada kept the yellow jersey of the overall leader of the Tour de France today as Jelle Nijdam of the Netherlands won the sprint to capture today's sixth stage, a 202.5-kilometre (126-mile) leg from Sarrebourg to Vittel in eastern France.

Jesper Skibby of Denmark, Johan Museeuw of Belgium, Giovanni Fidanza of Italy, Vinteslav Ekimov of the Soviet Union and Guy Nulens of Belgium finished with Nijdam, ahead of the main pack.

Two-time champion Greg Lemond is still more than 10 minutes behind, but is expected to narrow the margin in tomorrow's 61.5-kilometre (38-mile) time trial from Vittel to Spinal.

Record entry for 1992 Games soccer tourney

ROME, July 6. (Reuter): A record 126 countries will play in the qualifying rounds for the 1992 Barcelona Olympic soccer tournament, Fifa general secretary Joseph Blatter said today.

"This is the highest number of countries ever to have taken part in a Fifa (International Football Federation) competition," Blatter told a news conference in Rome.

"The figures show the enormous interest in the game and its increasing importance in developing countries," he said.

Sixteen teams will take part in the finals which will be held in five stadiums in four cities — Barcelona, Valencia, Zaragoza and Sabadell.

Europe will provide five or six teams, depending on the result of a play-off with the Oceania qualifier. Africa and Asia will each have three places while South America and North and Central America and the Caribbean (Concacaf) will each provide two qualifiers.

The competition is open to all players, amateur or professional, provided they are under 23 years old during the finals.

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Mansell puts in ear plugs before his practice run. (Reuter wirephoto)

LE CASTELLET, France, July 6. (AP): Nigel Mansell of Britain turned a day's best lap of 213.142 kph (132.441 mph) today, gaining the provisional pole for French Grand Prix.

Mansell drove his Ferrari around the 3.81-kilometre (2.37-mile) Paul Ricard circuit in 1 minute, 4.402 seconds, 147 seconds ahead of Ayrton Senna of Brazil, whose lap of 212.493 kph (132.181 mph) in a McLaren-Honda put him second after the first day of qualifying.

Alain Prost of France also completed a lap under 65 seconds, putting him and his Ferrari third with a speed of 211.691 kph (131.681 mph).

Mansell set the course qualifying record at 1:06.454, 206.403 kph (128.393 mph) in 1987. This year however, the track was resurfaced and made faster.

Ricardo Patrese of Italy was fourth in a Williams-Renault with Senna's teammate, Gerhard Berger of Austria, next. Patrese's best time was 1:05.059 for a speed of 210.823 kph (131.143 mph), while Berger turned a lap in 1:05.350, 209.883 kph (130.557 mph).

Thierry Boutsen of Belgium was tentatively sixth in a Williams-Renault, completing his best lap in 1:05.446, 209.583 kph (130.370 kph).

Another qualifying session is scheduled for tomorrow. If Mansell's time holds up, it will be Ferrari's first pole for the season. McLaren-Hondas have dominated, winning all six pole positions so far.

McLaren team chief Ron Dennis said the wind was a problem for his drivers, too.

"The wind is a problem at absolutely the worst point, directly hitting up the back at Signes," he said. "And if you're not flat out at Signes, you're not going to make the time."

Despite the buffeting, Mansell shaved two seconds off his previous qualifying record of 1:06.454, set in a Williams Honda in 1987.

Dennis said if the wind dropped the times could go as low as the 1:02s in tomorrow's final qualifying.